



# MiG shot down airliner with 269 on board, says Shultz

## US-Soviet crisis over jumbo jet

From Nicholas Ashford in Washington, Richard Hanson in Tokyo and Richard Owen in Moscow

Soviet and American leaders were mobilizing for a new crisis today after Washington accused the Soviet Union of shooting down a South Korean jumbo jet with 269 people on board.

President Andropov was believed to be returning to Moscow from holiday, while in Washington President Reagan instructed Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, to demand an immediate and full account of the incident from the Soviet Union.

The United States and Japan are considering requesting a special session of the United Nations Security Council.

In the space of 12 minutes, Korean Airlines Flight 007 from New York to Seoul via Anchorage plunged from 10,000 metres to disappear from the

radar screens after straying 720 kilometres off course into Soviet airspace over the northern island of Sakhalin, between northern Japan and Siberia.

Among the passengers - the majority Koreans, Taiwanese and Japanese - was Mr Lawrence McDonald, head of the US House of Representatives armed services committee. Washington claimed that Soviet MiG jets attacked the aircraft.

After a day of near-silence on the incident, Moscow said last night that an unidentified aircraft twice violated its airspace and that Soviet fighters were scrambled to guide it to the nearest landing point, but that it failed to respond to signals. The statement did not admit to shooting down the aircraft.

Reports from Tokyo, quoting sources in intelligence and the Japanese Defence Agency, said that the MiG pilot was heard saying to his base Sakhalin: "I am



going to fire a missile. The target is the KAL (Korean Air Lines) plane."

In a further exchange Sakhalin said: "Take aim at target." Pilot: "Aim taken." Sakhalin: "Fire." Pilot: "Fired."

According to Kyodo News Agency, this exchange occurred three times, indicating the firing of three missiles.

In Washington, Mr Shultz, his voice quivering with emotion, said "We can see

no excuse whatsoever for this appalling act."

Mr Shultz, in detailed account of the incident monitored by an American base in Japan, said that the Russians had tracked the KAL flight for 2½ hours from their Sakhalin base; that up to eight Soviet jets in constant touch with their ground control had "reacted" to the airliner's presence and that the Russian pilot had visual contact with his target.

Soviet naval vessels and aircraft are searching the area for signs of the

aircraft, according to Washington and Tokyo. American and Japanese rescue units are also searching.

Mr Richard Burt, the US Assistant Secretary of State, said yesterday that some wreckage and a kerosene slick had been spotted in the crash area, but there was no indication of survivors.

A South Korean airline official said in New York that 240 passengers and 29 crew had been on board the missing airliner. Many of the nationalities were still unknown last night and the official said: "We just cannot tell if there are any British." Reports from Seoul listed 72 Koreans, between 22 and 27 Japanese and 34 Taiwanese.

It was not known why the jet had drifted so far from its flight path, which should have taken it over Japan.

If the death toll in the disaster is 269, it will be the fifth most serious crash in the history of aviation.

### Shultz press conference

## 'We react with revulsion to this attack'

Washington (AP) - The following is the text of Mr George Shultz's briefing yesterday on the disappearance of the South Korean airliner.

At approximately 1600 hours GMT, the aircraft came to the attention of the Soviet radar. It was tracked by the Soviets from that time. The aircraft strayed into Soviet air space over the Kamchatka peninsula and over the Sea of Okhotsk and over the Sakhalin Islands. The Soviets tracked the commercial airliner for some 2½ hours.

A Soviet pilot recorded visual contact with the aircraft at 1812 hours. The Soviet plane was, we know, in constant contact with its ground control. At 1821 hours the Korean aircraft was reported by the Soviet pilot at 10,000 metres. At 1826 hours the Soviet pilot reported that he "lost" the aircraft and the target was destroyed.

At 1830 hours the Korean aircraft was reported by radar at 5,000 metres. At 1838 hours the Korean plane disappeared from the radar screen. We know that at least eight Soviet fighters reacted at one time or another to the aircraft, the pilot who shot the aircraft down reported after the attack that he had destroyed the target and that he was breaking away.

About an hour later, the Soviet controllers ordered a number of their search aircraft to conduct search-and-rescue activities in the vicinity of the last position of the Korean aircraft as reflected by Soviet tracking. One of these aircraft reported finding kerosene

on the surface of the sea in that area.

During Wednesday night United States State Department officials, particularly Assistant Secretary (Richard) Burt, were in contact with Soviet officials seeking information concerning the airliner's fate. The Soviets offered no information.

As soon as US sources had confirmed the shooting down of the aircraft, the US on its own behalf and on behalf of the Republic of Korea called in the Soviet chargé d'affaires in Washington this morning to express our grave concern over the shooting down of an unarmed civilian plane carrying passengers with a number of nationalities. We also urgently demanded an explanation.

The United States reacts with revulsion to this attack. Loss of life appears to be heavy. We can see no excuse whatsoever for this appalling act.

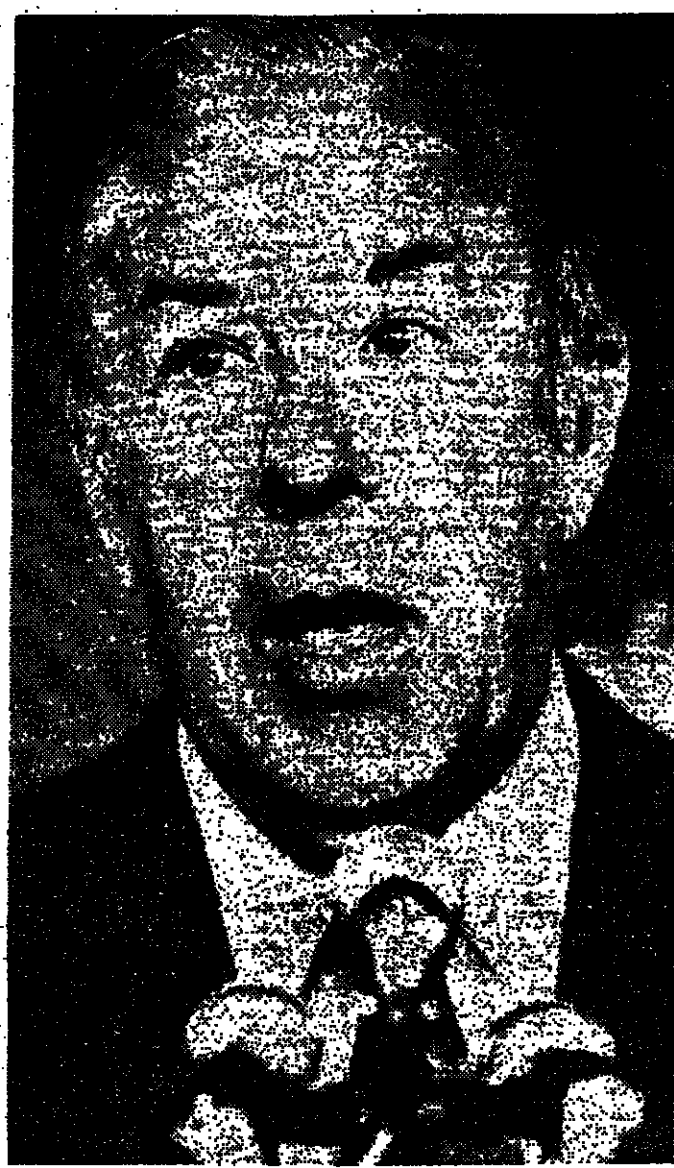
Q: Will this make any difference in the way the United States deals with the Soviet Union - for example, your meeting with Foreign Minister Gromyko?

A: Well, I certainly will want to meet with Foreign Minister Gromyko and hear what he has to say about this. Of course, we expect to hear from the Soviet Union long before that.

Q: Is the United States in touch with Moscow at all on the hot line or in any Presidential contact in this case?

A: No. This information that we have has come into our hands after the shooting down of this plane.

Q: Have you spoken to the



Mr Shultz: "We can see no excuse whatsoever."

President about this matter and what did he say?

A: I haven't spoken to the President as yet.

Q: Mr Secretary, can you tell us, was there any warning given by the Soviets?

A: I should say the President was fully informed, and I've talked to the West Coast, and the President

knows all about this, and he's been kept fully informed. I have not personally spoken to him.

Q: Mr Secretary, can you tell us, did the Soviet Union give any warning to this aircraft and request it to land or try to force it down before it shot it down?

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## Shocked Reagan demands full story

From Our Correspondent Washington

President Reagan, described as "very concerned and deeply disturbed" about the loss of life on board the Korean jet, has directed Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, to demand an immediate and full account of the incident from the Soviet Union.

A special White House statement said: "There are no circumstances that can justify the unprecedented attack on an unarmed civilian aircraft. The Soviet Union owes an explanation to the world about how and why this tragedy has occurred."

The terse comment was made after President Reagan, who is on holiday at his ranch near Santa Barbara in California, had spoken by telephone with Mr Shultz in Washington.

Former Secretary of State, Dr Henry Kissinger, said it was an "outrageous, unforgivable act" that these planes would follow a commercial aircraft, for two hours and then just shoot it down callously.

● LONDON: The Foreign Office last night described the disaster as "deeply disturbing and, on the face of it, wholly inexplicable" (Henry Stanhope writes). Diplomats were in close contact with Seoul and New York, trying to check whether any British passengers had been on board.

● OTTAWA: The Canadian Government is calling on the Soviet Embassy here to demand an explanation for the "unprovoked attack" on the jet External Relations Minister Mr Jean-Luc Pepin said (AP reports).

At least two and possibly 10 Canadian residents were on board the aircraft.

## Tass says we do not know aircraft's fate

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

President Andropov was believed to be cutting short a brief holiday yesterday to deal with a potential crisis in Soviet-American relations after the disappearance of a South Korean airliner near the island of Sakhalin, off the Soviet far eastern coast.

Soviet officials maintained that Moscow had no knowledge of the aircraft's fate and that it had left Soviet air space.

Tass news agency said in a brief statement that an unidentified aircraft had entered Soviet air space over the Kamchatka peninsula from the direction of the Pacific and had again "violated Soviet air space" a second time over Sakhalin.

Tass said it did not have navigation lights, did not respond to queries and did not enter into contact with "the dispatched service", a reference to Soviet interceptors.

The report said "fighters of the anti-aircraft defence" had been sent to intercept the "intruder" and had tried to give it assistance by directing it to the nearest airfield.

The aircraft had "not reacted to the signals and warnings from the Soviet fighters" and had then continued its flight in the direction of the Sea of Japan.

The Kremlin remained silent yesterday on the fate of the jumbo jet, but Asian diplomats in Moscow said Soviet denials of responsibility were not convincing.

There was no immediate reaction to charges by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, that the aircraft had been shot down by a Soviet fighter.

Sources said that if Mr Shultz's information, based on interception of Soviet military conver-

sations, was correct, Mr Andropov would take steps to avoid a sharp deterioration in relations with the US and Japan.

Earlier in the day Tass carried a six-line report on the incident in Russian, but it was not repeated in the agency's English service. The report, also carried by Moscow radio, said an airliner had disappeared off the northern coast of Japan, but did not elaborate.

A senior Japanese diplomat, Mr Hisashi Owada, went to the Soviet Foreign Ministry yesterday

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afternoon and was told that the Government had no knowledge of the missing aircraft. Officials said it had not landed on Soviet territory "and is therefore not located on Soviet territory".

Asian diplomats said they found this formula unconvincing since it left open the possibility that the aircraft had exploded in mid-air or crashed into the sea.

Sources pointed out that when a South Korean airliner was forced down by MiG fighters in 1978 the Russians initially denied all knowledge of it.

In yesterday's incident, the aircraft, bound for Tokyo, disappeared from radar screens as it approached northern Japan. The Japanese Air Force later said it believed an aircraft had been intercepted, forced or shot down near Sakhalin.

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Many video "nasties" Presiding over the incineration as the chairman of Merseyside's Public Protection Committee, Mr John Gallagher, who is calling for licensing system for video libraries.

Mr Gallagher added that many apes were being re-recorded to "take them into video 'nasties'". Warwickshire County Council rating standards officers have fixed 1,200 tapes, believed to be "rotten from four houses on the Edenham Estate, Leamington

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Mr George... of Fincham, Norfolk, his wife Josephine, and children, Joshua and Holly, escaped from the wreckage unhurt, but their car was a write off.

Mr John Hall the Norfolk assistant chief constable who will hand over the keys to the new car, said yesterday: "An inquiry is still going on into the incident to see if there are any lessons to be learnt."

"We were determined from the outset that Mr Phillips would not lose in any way. We hired a car for him and we could find a

## Druze leader declares war on Lebanese Government

From Robert Fisk Beirut

The Lebanese Army's military push into West Beirut began to reap bitter political results for President Amin Gemayel yesterday. A second militia leader rejected his call for a national reconciliation and Mr Walid Jumblatt the Druze leader made a "declaration of war" against the Lebanese Government.

As he did so - at the same time threatening United States Marines of the multinational peace-keeping force in Beirut - shells fired from Druze areas under Syrian Army occupation started to explode around the Presidential Palace, the Lebanese Defence Ministry and the residence of the American ambassador.

Even more chilling were reports from both Lebanese police authorities and right-wing radio stations that 24 Christian villagers, most of them women and children, had been massacred in a small village in the Meta Hill by Druze who wanted to take revenge for the Lebanese Army's operation against Muslim militias in west Beirut.

There was further grim news

### Reagan sends in naval force

Washington (AP) - President Reagan yesterday ordered a naval amphibious force to the Mediterranean to back up US marines in Lebanon and directed the aircraft carrier Eisenhower to remain in the region.

The Defence Department announced that 1,600 Marines would sail from East Africa today to stand off the coast of Lebanon. It said there were no plans to send this additional Marine unit ashore in Lebanon.

for Mr Gemayel during the day when Lebanese troops - whom the Government had earlier claimed to be in full control of the city - found themselves under attack by militiamen using rifles, machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades.

Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's special envoy, was in conference with President Gemayel when the first shells landed around the palace at Baabida just east of Beirut. They

appeared to be deliberately timed to coincide with a press conference that Mr Jumblatt was then holding in Damascus, a gathering at which the Druze leader declared that his militia were now in a state of war with the Lebanese authorities.

He accused the United States and the troops of the multinational force in Beirut, including Britain, of supporting an attempt by the Christian Phalangists, through Mr Gemayel, to form a one-party dictatorship in Lebanon.

It is just this sort of diatribe that has convinced Mr McFarlane that Syria is behind the anti-Government violence in Beirut. He believes - and has been told as much by American officials and Lebanese Druze militia - that the battles in west Beirut were deliberately fomented by agents of the Syrian secret service.

Syria is quite capable of sending its agents on such missions but the roots of the crisis in Beirut lie much deeper than this.

New-look army, page 4

## Shore and Kinnock clash on economy

By Anthony Beving, Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow chancellor and an outside contender for the Labour leadership, said last night that the party's entire economic strategy would fall without a firm agreement on incomes control.

That view contrasted starkly with a speech made by Mr Neil Kinnock, the favourite for the leadership, in a considered statement on economic policy delivered in his Irish constituency.

Mr Kinnock did not mention pay controls once.

Mr Shore said in Southampton that the election campaign was the answer to the central economic question: "How will you control inflation?"

He said: "We did have an answer: price controls, tax cuts and the national economic assessment. But these were coded words, and the electorate is not in the business of deciphering codes."

The question was how Labour was going to reconcile the continuing role of collective bargaining with the need to

restrain inflation. "It is essential that we find the answer," Mr Shore said.

"For it is indeed the missing component in what is otherwise a coherent policy for economic expansion. But I have to tell you in all candour that, without a firm agreement on incomes, we shall not be able to achieve our goals of rapid economic expansion and a rapid reduction in unemployment," he said.

Speaking at the same time in South Wales, Mr Kinnock concentrated on attacking the Conservatives' "smug sermons" about borrowing, the need for public investment, and the pre-election "massage" of the economy which had been reversed since Mrs Margaret Thatcher was returned to office on June 9.

But in his summary of Labour policy he said the mechanism for pulling together the resources and abilities of Britain exists in Labour's plans for the development of British industry and the operation of the national economic assessment.

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## US tourists boost Atlantic air traffic

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Airlines carrying passengers across the Atlantic report record loads as American tourists flood into Britain and Europe on the back of a strong dollar and a US economy emerging out of recession.

Traffic in July - the latest month for which full figures are available - was 12-20 per cent up on last year and the highest since the boom of 1979.

British Airways and Pan American report traffic rises of 14 per cent compared with 1982, and aircraft flying 80 per cent full. Transworld Airlines claims a 17.9 rise compared with last year and record loads.

But most successful of all was the jet newcomer People Express. Its single jumbo carried

more than 400 passengers on each of its five jet-price flights a week between Gatwick and New York giving a load factor of over 90 per cent.

A feature of the boom is that 60 per cent of the traffic originated in the US, compared with only 40 per cent in 1979. The airlines are jubilant and all expect a profit from Atlantic operations after four lean years.

For TWA, which expects a \$200m operating profit from the Atlantic this year, British manager, Mr Larry Langley, said yesterday: "We are witnessing a graphic contradiction of many self-styled pessimists who have commented over the years on over-capacity of seats and

absence of profitability on Atlantic routes. There is certainly no evidence of over-capacity this year and profitability is expected."

British Airways said: "It is certainly a happy picture on the Atlantic, and we expect to make a profit from our operations. There are definite signs of an end to the recession."

PanAm said: "The industry has had a very good summer, primarily because of the strong dollar."

Total traffic between London and the US in July was 700,000 - the most recorded in a single month, according to the British Airports Authority. The reason, the authority said, was "in-

creased US tourists to the UK, encouraged by the sudden appearance of more dollars in their pockets and an awareness that each dollar would last longer in the UK than it did in recent years."

Despite the summer boom, the airlines face the winter with some foreboding.

Cut-price single fares such as British Airways' £156 from Heathrow to New York midweek have been scrapped, and instead all airlines are now relying on a £249 advance purchase New York return to boost traffic from its usual low levels in November and December. This is the lowest for several years and some £30 lower than last year.

## Union to support Hattersley for Labour leader

Britain's third largest union is ready to throw its weight behind Mr Roy Hattersley in his campaign for the leadership of the Labour Party.

Mr Hattersley, trying to stop a landslide for Mr Neil Kinnock in the leadership contest, appears to have won the support of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union.

Their regional leaders announced that a complicated consultation process lasting more than seven weeks had shown strong shopfloor support for Mr Hattersley with Mr Kinnock as his deputy.

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### THE TIMES Tomorrow

Well schooled... Lorna Bourke looks at the high cost of private education.  
Well shed... How to choose the right shoes for your children.  
What prospects? Frances Williams analyses the August unemployment figures.



Internal combustion... Third and final part of the competition to win a Ford Sierra XR4i.  
External combustion... Are smokers a drag? A look at Britons' attitudes to the weed.  
Holy smoke... The American evangelists out to convert you.

## Britain calls for release of officers

Britain has called for the release of the six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers who were immediately rearrested after being cleared of sabotage charges. The Acting High Commissioner of Zimbabwe in London was called to the Foreign Office yesterday and told that the British Government and people were "very concerned and disturbed".

### NHS pressure

A new government circular gives health authorities the clearest indication yet that they are expected to privatize more of their domestic, catering, and laundry services.

### Lloyd's warning

Sir Peter Green, chairman of Lloyd's, the London insurance market, has given a warning that insurance rates are too low, despite record profits of £264m.

### PIE condemned

The Home Secretary condemned the views of the Pseudophilosophical Information Exchange, which would not say more because of "a possibility of prosecution against individual members".

### Stage museum

Lord Gower, Minister for the Arts, has given the go-ahead for a theatre museum in London less than two months after he postponed the project.

### College cuts

Three of the six or so colleges threatened with closure or merger under cuts recommended by government advisers have been named.

### Falklands vote

A UN committee endorsed a resolution calling on London and Buenos Aires to resume negotiations over the sovereignty of the Falklands.

### Jobs threat

The new chairman of British Shipbuilders, Mr Graham Day, has announced that further job losses and yard closures may be needed.

### Poland 'normal'

The Polish press yesterday tried to portray life in the country as normal despite Wednesday's pro-Solidarity demonstrations and clashes in Warsaw, Gdansk and other cities.

### £43m issue

Tate & Lyle, the sugar group, is planning to raise £43m through a rights issue to its shareholders.

### Roland Rat goes

TV-am is to drop its popular puppet character Roland Rat after the school holidays and replace him with Popeye cartoons.

### Aoki leads

Isao Aoki (Japan) has a first round of 63 in the European Open at Sunningdale. Craig Francis, a millionaire amateur held the lead for five hours.

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Letters: On seizure of documents from Mr J. G. Watson; Zimbabwe arrests from Mr Humphrey Berkeley; confidential Treasury paper from Mr D. J. Critchley. Leading articles: Harare; Youth Training Scheme. Features: pages 6-8. Missions: Fighting illiteracy. West Germany: waiting for Pershing. Special Report: pages 16 and 17. Review of the air freight industry. Obituaries: page 10. Dr Harry Collier.

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# Cuts in university places fall hardest on women and working class

Higher A level grades were demanded of young people applying to university last year than ever before. Women were particularly badly affected by the squeeze on higher education places, and fewer working class candidates got to university.

The increasing difficulty which students have in getting into university, shown in figures published yesterday by the Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA), is a direct result of government spending cuts and the reduction in student numbers at a time when the 18-year-old age group is at its biggest. The number of British students accepted last year was down by 3 per cent, from 74,514 to 71,634 compared with 1981, and the number of overseas students accepted was down by 12 per cent from 5,827 to 5,118. Malaysians, in particular, were reluctant to pay the new 'full-cost fees' for overseas students. The number

UCCA says: "Although, in total, a higher percentage of candidates from the higher social classes were accepted, this difference is due to their better performance at A level."

Women were affected worse last year, the report says. Fewer were admitted to university than the previous year, fewer were referred in the clearing house system, and many fewer who passed A levels even applied through the clearing house.

No reason is given for that, but it is believed that women are being affected more than men because they tend to study arts subjects, which have suffered more than the sciences from the

cuts. The Equal Opportunities Commission said yesterday that it was concerned about the disproportionate effect of women.

Only 20.9 per cent of all those applying to university were manual class compared with 21.7 per cent from the professional classes.

Miss Warwick, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said it was disgusting, as was the fact that university applicants were having to get higher and higher grades.

Yesterday's figures also showed more candidates who were refused by universities going back to school last year compared with 1979, 14 per cent compared with 12 per cent. Many more - 7.4 per cent compared with 4.2 per cent - were unemployed.

Statistical Supplement to the *Twentieth Report, 1982-83*, The Universities Central Council on Admissions, PO Box 28, Gloucester, GL2 5JH.

Unemployment among graduates reached record levels last year, with perhaps as many as 13.5 per cent still out of work six months after completing their degrees, according to figures published yesterday by the University Grants Committee.

The number of graduates known to have failed to find work was almost 8,000 out of 66,000 students graduating. Graduate unemployment has risen over the years; they are now more than twice as likely to be without a job as in 1978.

However, their employment prospects are still better than national trends and unemployment rates vary considerably between different subjects. Only 1 per cent of medicine, dentistry, and health graduates fail to find work, compared with 18 per cent in humanities.

*University Statistics 1981-82, Vol 2, First Destinations of University Graduates*, Universities Central Council on Admissions, PO Box 130, Cheltenham, GL51 5JH.

## £11,000 equality grant

The Women's Staff Group at Aston University, Birmingham, has been awarded an £11,000 grant by the Equal Opportunities Commission directed at improving the female staff position and that of female students at the university.

It is the largest single grant in the commission's present rounds of awards. The grant will finance a one-year full-time appointment to coordinate what is called "a positive action programme". Interviews for the post will be held shortly. Work will start on the programme in October.

It is believed to be the first such full-time appointment at a British university although some par-

time work has been done on the same lines at Strathclyde University.

Miss Rowena Clayton, a lecturer and member of the staff group, said yesterday: "It is intended that the experience gained at Aston will enable the coordinator to draw up a code of practice for positive action, which can be applied to other universities."

The programme would involve investigating and acting on policies and practices in areas such as course content and publicity, interview procedures, staff training and promotion, health services, and social provision.

## New house search for missing wife

The police hunting Mrs Diane Jones, aged 35, the missing wife of Dr Robert Jones, yesterday began another search of their £95,000 home. A video camera, electronic sensing equipment, a power drill, and a sledge were taken into the white-painted, 400-year-old beamed farmhouse.

Later loud banging noises could be heard from behind closed curtains inside the house, Lees Farm, Coggeshall, Essex.

After two hours the police left the house, carrying cases and toolboxes. The front door was locked by an estate agent who is advertising the house.

Earlier the police had searched a wood known as the Dillery less than half a mile from the house. The wood, on land owned by the Essex Police Committee chairman, Mr Bill Dixon-Smith, contains a flooded sandpit known as "Dead Man's Pond" because two village people have drowned themselves in it.

Dr Jones, aged 48, who is on a month-long foreign holiday, is expected to leave Toronto today to fly to Sydney.

Originally, Dr Jones had told the police that he planned to visit Honolulu, but a close friend said yesterday that he had changed his travel plans and intended to fly direct to Australia.

The fire broke out early yesterday and Mr Thomas Murphy, a waiter, died while trying to help in the evacuation of about 200 people. More than 400 people were injured, and some flats and badly damaged an hotel at Ilfracombe, North Devon.

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## Banks fight £20m losses New card to cut cheque fraud

A new type of cheque guarantee card, intended to reduce fraud, could be introduced early next year.

Franklin, saying of them highly organized, are costing the clearing banks an average of about £1 a year for each of the 20 million cards in use. But negotiations between the banks on a new card have dragged on for nearly two years while the banks have

lost money. The new card is likely to have a magnetic strip, which would make it much more difficult for criminals to remove the signature strip and replace with a new one.

The banks are still studying the possibility of sealing signatures into the cards by covering them with plastic or something else on the cards with laser technology. However, banking sources said it was less likely that that would be introduced immediately.

Putting customers' photographs on cards has also been abandoned for the moment because of disagreement among the big banks, with National Westminster the main opponent.

The card used by the United Bank of Kuwait.

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## Football club will aid arrested fans

Birmingham City Football Club, which had 236 of its supporters arrested at Euston Station last Saturday on the opening day of the season before the match with West Ham United, said yesterday that it would offer them legal advice when all the facts were known.

Those arrested by what was said to be a large number of Metropolitan Police officers waiting at the station will appear at various courts this month, and next month, charged with public order offences.

The club appealed yesterday to all those who were arrested and everyone else who was on the train from Birmingham which arrived at Euston at 12.40 pm to write with their version of what happened.

Mr Keith Coombs, chairman of the club, said that they had received many telephone calls of complaint from parents of young

people. Some had made allegations against the police.

"Due to their age, I would not like their cases to go by default. I think it falls on the club to show interest and use whatever offices we can to help them present their case. After all, they are our supporters. A lot of young people will need representation."

Mr Coombs said that the club solicitor had been consulted. "When we have a clearer picture of what happened, Birmingham City will be willing to offer legal advice. We should not just stand by in case an injustice is done."

Scotland Yard said it was not known whether Birmingham City had sought an official version of the events that led to the arrests. Many Birmingham supporters had arrived at Euston and run into the station concourse and Euston Road, knocking down pedestrians.

It was not policy to disclose how many officers had been deployed.

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## TV-am to replace Roland Rat with 'Popeye' cartoons

From David Hewson, Glasgow

The commercial breakfast television station TV-am is to drop the popular puppet character Roland Rat at the end of the summer school holidays and replace him with Popeye cartoons.

Roland Rat, whose performances are thought to have played a large part in TV-am's recently improved ratings, is to feature only in extended shows during subsequent holidays.

Mr Greg Dyke, the editor-in-chief of TV-am, yesterday agreed that the station could lose some of its audience when the school holidays ended but denied suggestions that the company was breaking the terms of its franchise with its new, popular broadcasting style.

A leading article in *The Times* was singled out for criticism by Mr Dyke, who said that although he had not read TV-am's franchise application before joining the station, the company was doing nothing that was not in keeping with its submission to the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

"I was the subject of a third leader in *The Times* accusing me of being too populist", he told a session on breakfast television at the Edinburgh International Television Festival.

"I find it difficult coming from *The Times*, a paper kept alive by the *Sun* and the *News of the World*. I don't think they have

watched the programme because if you did you would see it was still a mix of fun, kids' stuff, and serious news."

The original format, featuring the company's "famous five" presenters was "a bloody awful programme", Mr Dyke said. When he was brought into the station four months ago it was only five weeks from bankruptcy with ratings as low as 200,000.

"You had stories about American skateboarding ducks. If you're going to do skateboarding ducks, let's do British ones", he said.

He had responded by setting up an outside broadcast unit and buying in good cartoons in the belief, based on research in Australia, that the coming summer holidays would provide a good children's audience. Now the station was running neck and neck with the BBC's *Breakfast Time*.

A reshaping of the station's format is being planned, with additional features on pet news and home computers, a new consumer unit, and a political and economic desk.

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## Warning on timber houses

Construction of timber-frame houses should be limited and a government inquiry set up to investigate possible faults in the new building method, according to a report published yesterday by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. It says that more than one in five new homes in Britain are built by the timber-frame method and the figure is expected to double in 18 months.

Yet there were "serious doubts" about how long timber-frame buildings would last. A householder simply putting up a picture could puncture the timber frame's vapour barrier and put the house at risk, the report says.

The association, which represents local authorities in London, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Tyne and Wear, West and South Yorkshire, and the West Midlands, says that although not all the defects reported by its members are serious, "it is known that extensive remedial works will be necessary in some cases."

Surveys of member authorities have shown that housing defects are most common in non-traditional, industrialized, and system-built homes. Timber-frame, the latest building "system", should therefore be regarded with caution, the report says.

Timber-frame housing is quicker to build and relies less on skilled labour, but most of the advantages appear to benefit the builder or developer and not the consumer, the report says.

It calls for: Housebuilders to limit the number of timber-frame dwellings to 25 per cent of those constructed. A continuing Government-sponsored evaluation of timber-frame building methods. Longer guarantees for home owners. Advertising which states when a timber-frame has been used. Improvements in construction site supervision and tighter building regulations.

But the marketing men at British Rail headquarters were so involved in simplifying the fare structure that they thought it would be an anomaly to withdraw the ticket in just one region, so they abolished it altogether. Now it seems they are regretting it.

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## First class days out may return

By Michael Bailey  
Transport Editor

British Rail is expected to reinstate first-class day returns - which it abolished in May - before the end of the year.

No decision has been reached, but British Rail spokesmen said yesterday that there was a growing realization that withdrawal of the tickets was a mistake, causing not only loss of revenue, but also widespread resentment among passengers.

Instead of travelling with a first-price first-class ticket - usually about double the price of a day return - British Rail's 700,000 customers, using the tickets one year decided either to go by car or travel second class.

British Rail said: "We have had a very big public response on this issue, and there is a clear break between how the businessman has reacted, by using his car, and the leisure traveller, who has gone down market."

Mr Les Dumbleton, secretary of the rail users' watchdog body, said yesterday: "People who have written to us are very aggrieved about this; but many more did not bother to complain and simply voted with their feet."

Typical examples of day returns compared with normal first-class returns before May were: London to Brighton £8.80 (£16); London to Colchester £8.80 (£16); London to Oxford £10 (£17.50).

More than half the business, worth nearly £6m a year to British Rail, was with Southern Region which first took the view that by withdrawing the tickets it could make more money.

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## New card to cut cheque fraud

A new type of cheque guarantee card, intended to reduce fraud, could be introduced early next year.

Franklin, saying of them highly organized, are costing the clearing banks an average of about £1 a year for each of the 20 million cards in use. But negotiations between the banks on a new card have dragged on for nearly two years while the banks have

lost money. The new card is likely to have a magnetic strip, which would make it much more difficult for criminals to remove the signature strip and replace with a new one.

The banks are still studying the possibility of sealing signatures into the cards by covering them with plastic or something else on the cards with laser technology. However, banking sources said it was less likely that that would be introduced immediately.

Putting customers' photographs on cards has also been abandoned for the moment because of disagreement among the big banks, with National Westminster the main opponent.

The card used by the United Bank of Kuwait.

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## Football club will aid arrested fans

Birmingham City Football Club, which had 236 of its supporters arrested at Euston Station last Saturday on the opening day of the season before the match with West Ham United, said yesterday that it would offer them legal advice when all the facts were known.

Those arrested by what was said to be a large number of Metropolitan Police officers waiting at the station will appear at various courts this month, and next month, charged with public order offences.

The club appealed yesterday to all those who were arrested and everyone else who was on the train from Birmingham which arrived at Euston at 12.40 pm to write with their version of what happened.

Mr Keith Coombs, chairman of the club, said that they had received many telephone calls of complaint from parents of young

people. Some had made allegations against the police.

"Due to their age, I would not like their cases to go by default. I think it falls on the club to show interest and use whatever offices we can to help them present their case. After all, they are our supporters. A lot of young people will need representation."

Mr Coombs said that the club solicitor had been consulted. "When we have a clearer picture of what happened, Birmingham City will be willing to offer legal advice. We should not just stand by in case an injustice is done."

Scotland Yard said it was not known whether Birmingham City had sought an official version of the events that led to the arrests. Many Birmingham supporters had arrived at Euston and run into the station concourse and Euston Road, knocking down pedestrians.

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## Coroner delays funeral of Aldermaston scientist

The funeral of a scientist who was employed at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment has been postponed by the local coroner with an order for a post-mortem examination of the body.

On the afternoon before the cremation was due Mr Charles Hoile, the West Berkshire coroner, telephoned Mrs Helen Davey, widow of the scientist, Mr Norman Davey, to say that the funeral could not go ahead until he was satisfied about the cause of death.

A doctor signed a certificate after the death of Mr Davey, aged 61, in Newbury District Hospital on August 15, saying that he had died of natural causes, namely stomach cancer.

A spokesman for Mr Hoile, said yesterday: the post-mortem examination had been carried out

and samples sent off for analysis.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that Mr Davey, of Newbury, Berkshire, had worked as a scientist officer in radiochemical analysis, but could not say whether he had ever been contaminated by radioactive material. The coroner expected to make an announcement soon, he said.

In 1978 the Pockin inquiry was held after a leak of deadly radioactive plutonium dust, which led to the closure of part of the Aldermaston base.

Unions representing tin families of more than 70 Aldermaston workers later instigated court action seeking compensation, claiming that there had been a cover-up and that many staff had been contaminated. Some have since died of cancer.

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## Government asks victims of Aids not to give blood

The Department of Health and Social Security is appealing to people who believe they are suffering from, or may be at risk from, the mysterious disease known as Aids not to give blood to the transfusion service.

The request is made in a leaflet for distribution to blood donation centres. It comes after concerns about incidents in the United States in which contaminated blood products have been attributed to donors suffering from Aids (Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome).

Those most at risk from Aids are homosexual men with more than one partner, drug addicts who inject themselves, and sexual contacts of people suffering from the disease.

"The best measure which can be taken is to ask people who think they have Aids, or may be at risk from it, to refrain from giving blood."

"Nevertheless I can appreciate the concern that this suggestion may cause. We must continue to minimize any possible risk of transmission of the disease by blood donation, but it is not possible to test a person's blood for the presence of Aids."

Announcing publication of the leaflet, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said: "It has been suggested that Aids may be transmitted in blood and blood products. There is no conclusive proof that this is so."

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## Barbados brothers to stay in Britain

A mother who arrived in Britain yesterday to help the campaign to stop the deportation of her two sons, stepped from an aircraft at Heathrow airport, London, to be told that the Home Office had just given them the right to settle in Britain.

Mr Geoffrey Ramsey, aged 23, and his brother David, were to be deported because neither of them nor their parents were born in Britain. As they waited at Heathrow for their mother, Mrs Penelope Ramsey, to arrive from her home in Barbados to help in their final appeal to the Home Office next week, a member of a television crew broke the good news.

Mrs Ramsey told *The Times* yesterday: "I was absolutely overwhelmed with such fabulous news. The threat had overshadowed everything."

Mr Geoffrey Ramsey said: "We are greatly relieved. We have lived with such uncertainty that we have not been able to plan our future, but now at last we can get on with our lives."

The news was given by Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, who said: "The Home Secretary and I have decided that it would be right to not outside the rules and grant the Ramsey brothers the right of settlement in this country."

The brothers did not come within the rules governing "United Kingdom ancestry" but it was clear that "their links with this country have for several generations been exceptionally strong."

The news ended a campaign lasting almost three years by Mrs Peggy Howard, aged 73, the brothers' grandmother from Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, other members of the family, and members of Parliament.



## London concern at Harare trial

## Foreign Office summons Zimbabwe envoy over Air Force arrests

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Mubvumba Samuel Kajese, Zimbabwe's acting High Commissioner in London, was summoned to the Foreign Office last night amid growing international concern over the fate of six Zimbabwe Air Force officers detained on Wednesday within minutes of their acquittal by a Harare court on sabotage charges.

Meanwhile, Mr Martin Ewans, Britain's High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, was delivering a message from Mrs Margaret Thatcher to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, appealing for clarification of his government's action.

Mrs Thatcher and her ministers are under pressure from their backbenches to express Britain's disapproval in the strongest possible terms, if necessary by cutting aid to the Zimbabwe, which is expected to total nearly £19m this year.

But Whitehall's first concern is to find out whether the men are likely to remain in jail indefinitely or whether the arrests were an attempt at repression which will soon be corrected.

The acting High Commissioner was seen at the Foreign Office by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State, who expressed Britain's "strong feelings" on the matter. The Government was "very disturbed", Mr Rifkind said on Radio 4's *World at One*.

The four officers with dual British-Zimbabwean nationality would be welcome in Britain if they were allowed to leave Harare and the Government was also ready to help the other two with Zimbabwean nationality, he said.

Mr Mugabe is due to visit the US next week and could find the White House taking a similar line on human rights. The US embassy in London last night estimated aid to Zimbabwe over the 1981-85 period at \$225m (£150m). It is not known whether he will stop in London for talks on the way.

One way Britain could make its feelings known would be to cut the military training team in Zimbabwe, which is already being reduced from 100 to between 50

and 60 officers and NCOs as they near the end of their first training phase.

● HARARE: Back in Chikurubi maximum-security prison yesterday after their acquittal, the six officers were said by their lawyers to be in good spirits and confident they will be released soon (Stephen Taylor writes).

There was a cautious optimism that the airman's year-long ordeal may be nearing an end. It is believed by some that the detention orders served on the officers on Wednesday are a temporary measure which does not have the endorsement of Mr Mugabe.

Others, however, said the situation remained confused, and indicated that conflicting signals were coming from the Government. A Cabinet meeting earlier in the day was said to have been routine.

The officers' wives attended a moving service of thanksgiving in the evening of the acquittal. The charges carried the death penalty. Throughout the affair military chaplains have provided spiritual encouragement to the families.

Lieutenant-Colonel Val Rajah, the Army Chaplain-General, said he had visited the officers earlier in the day and they had said they were content for other detainees who did not have the world's attention on them.

If by spending a few more days in prison the attention helped other detainees, they would not feel the time badly spent, he added.

In another development, Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front party was proposing to raise the re-detentions in an adjournment debate in the House of Assembly last night.

In Parliament on Wednesday Dr Herbert Ukwokuzwe, the Minister of Home Affairs, who signed the new detention orders, said that a man held for allegedly insulting Zimbabwe's leaders had been released.

Asked by an MP why Mr

Edward Moll had been detained for eight months, Dr Ukwokuzwe said: "I do not have to give a catalogue of what happened. He was given his due time in the cooler and he is out, so I do not see any need for further explanations."

A seventh airman arrested two days after the sabotage is still in detention, although the Attorney-General's office declined to prosecute him for lack of evidence.

Air Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker, also a dual British-Zimbabwean national, is being held on a detention order which alleges that he cut a hole in the Thornhill security fence through which the saboteurs gained entry.

● DUBLIN: The official visit to Ireland next week of Mr Mugabe and a team of Cabinet ministers could prove acutely embarrassing for the African delegation (Our Correspondent writes).

Two of the six officers acquitted on Wednesday hold Irish passports. They are Wing Commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox.

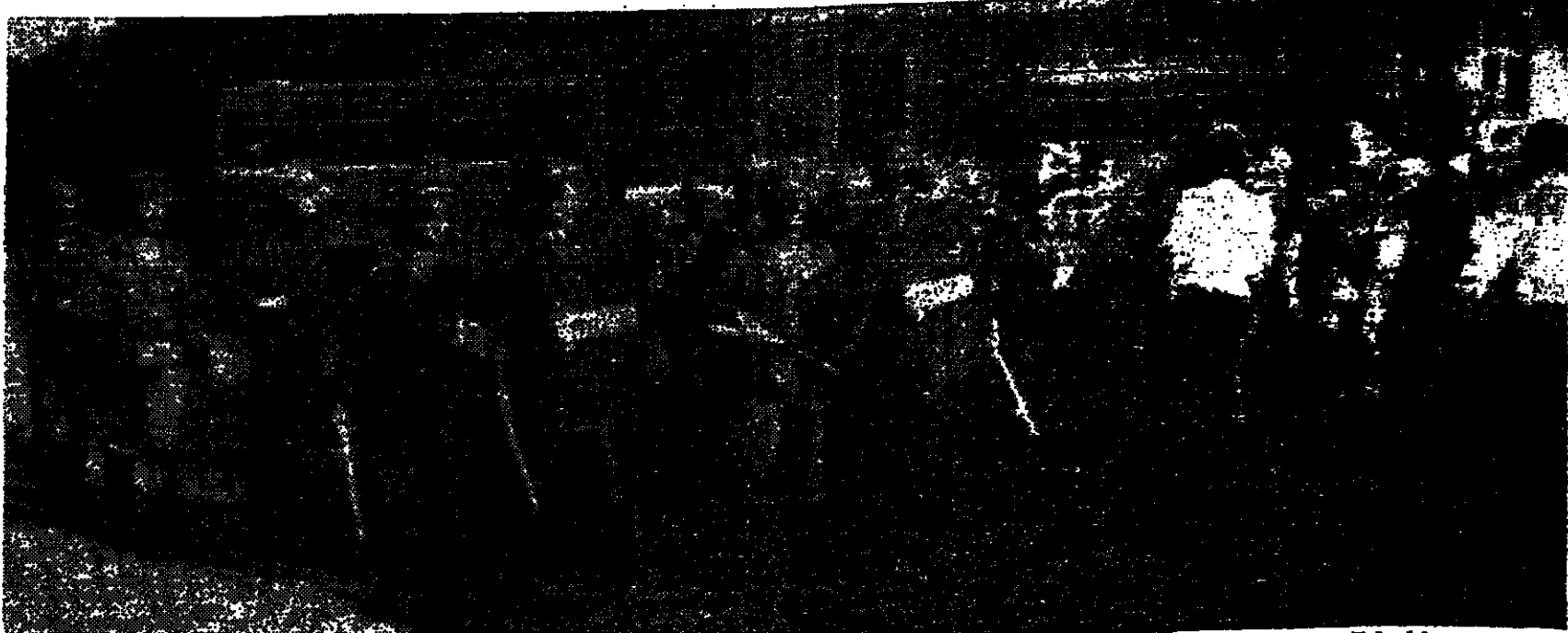
A spokesman for the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin said yesterday: "We are investigating what steps we can take on behalf of the Irish passport holders."

The Zimbabwe delegation visit was officially confirmed yesterday by the Dublin Government. Mr Mugabe is due to meet Dr Carr, the Prime Minister, and Mr Peter Barry, the Foreign Minister, during the two-day visit.

Whites' future, page 9  
Leading article and letter, page 9

## Open house

Johannesburg (AFP) - The town council of the white residential Johannesburg suburb of Randburg has agreed to open its swimming pools, public toilets, transport, creches and nursery schools to all races.



Back on the streets: Riot police in Wroclaw facing demonstrators in one of the pro-Solidarity protests that erupted in Polish cities

## Polish press tries to play down Solidarity riots

From Roger Boyes

Some yards away from the scene of Wednesday's clashes between Solidarity supporters and the batons of the militia, the Polish authorities last night held an anti-rally in the form of a light-and-sound show in Warsaw's Castle Square.

Nearly police have removed a floral cross - the focus of Solidarity demonstrations - from the shelter of St Anna's Church and a militia stands guard. A column of militia vehicles parked near some student hostels houses more police-

men smoking, playing cards and reading comics.

Everything was, is and will be normal, the Polish press declared yesterday in their analysis of Solidarity demonstrations which broke out in Nowa Huta, Wroclaw, Gdansk, Warsaw, Czestochowa and Lublin.

Pictures received from Nowa Huta, the steel producing centre near Cracow, show demonstrators - perhaps 3,000 of them - ripping up pavements and passing slabs along a human chain to form a barricade against the militia tear gas and water cannon brigades. The fighting

in Nowa Huta, much of it near the new church in the town centre, was evidently bloody with some injuries also among the policemen.

The Polish press seemed torn yesterday between describing these incidents and deploring the violence and claiming, again and again that August 31 was absolutely normal, peaceful, calm.

A dispatch entitled: "Good work in Poland" from the news agency PAP, said: "The last day of August was marked by hard work in the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk where the construction of 11 ships continued."

The report did not mention that after the good work the workers demonstrated with some conviction their support for the Gdansk agreement which three years ago anchored the right to have free and independent trade unions.

Most commentaries describe Wednesday's demonstrations as probably the last attempt of the Solidarity underground to organize demonstrations. That remains to be seen. In the meantime the Government is fostering what might be termed the propaganda of ordinariness.

## 'Stern' publishers seek independent investigation

Hamburg (Reuters) - The publisher of the West German news magazine *Stern* called for an independent investigation into how it was duped into publishing the forged "Hitler diaries".

But Herr Henri Nannen's call yesterday for a new inquiry met immediate opposition from his own managing board and editorial staff.

He told a press conference here that an inquiry by members of the

editorial staff had produced contradictory accusations against some staff members but had failed to furnish proof.

He said a new investigating commission would be set up, independent of the editorial and publishing staffs and with at least two judicial officials on it. He said the first report, while relatively favourable to him, should not be published.

The managing board of Gruner and Jahr, *Stern's* publishing company, issued a statement immediately afterwards saying

that it would probably not comply with Herr Nannen's request, and that it still believed the staff should decide in what form the present report could be published.

A spokesman for the *Stern* editorial staff told journalists that Herr Nannen, by giving a press conference yesterday had broken an agreement between the *Stern* publishers and journalists not to discuss the report in public until agreement had been reached on how to handle it.

She said the report, which journalists' representatives have

not yet seen, would be presented to a full meeting of journalists on September 9 along with comments from staff members implicated in it.

The internal inquiry was separate from an investigation being conducted by the Hamburg state prosecutor into alleged fraud by the former *Stern* journalist, Herr Gerd Heidemann, and the Nazi memorabilia dealer, Herr Konrad Kujau, who supplied the diaries to *Stern*.

Both men have been in custody since May awaiting trial.

## Shuttle arm proves its muscle

Cape Canaveral (AFP) - Astronauts of the space shuttle Challenger tested the spacecraft's 50-ft robot arm yesterday, lifting a 7,640lb package designed to simulate satellites the shuttle is to retrieve and deploy in the future.

"It works like a champ," the mission specialist Dale Gardner told mission control in Houston, after lifting the aluminium and lead object.

The space agency hopes to use the Canadian-manufactured arm to deploy and retrieve satellites weighing as much as 65,000lb, and later to build a space station.

## Soviet soldier refused asylum

Zirndorf, West Germany (Reuters) - A Soviet soldier interned in Switzerland after being captured by Afghan guerrillas has been refused political asylum in West Germany, a West German spokesman said yesterday.

The Federal Asylum Office rejected Mr Yuri Ivanovich Vashchenko's request, saying he had already found protection from political persecution in Switzerland, where he escaped from internment.

## Uruguay ban

Montevideo, (Reuters) - Uruguay's military rulers have banned the Peace and Justice Service, the only human rights group in the country. The organization is headed by the Argentine Nobel Peace Prize winner Senator Adolfo Pérez Esquivel.

## Invited to view

Two Spanish colonels have been invited by the Soviet Union to attend next week's military manoeuvres near the Caspian Sea, according to Defence Ministry sources. Spain is a member of Nato's political organization but not integrated into the defence system.

## Malagasy poll

Antananarivo (AFP) - President Ratsiraka's Arena Party has maintained its absolute control of the Malagasy national assembly in last Sunday's elections, taking a probable 118 of the 137 seats contested.

## Cairo swoop

Cairo (Reuters) - Egyptian police have arrested 19 members of an armed communist underground organization which they say planned to overthrow the Government.

## Oil inferno

Salvador, Brazil (AFP) - Three railway tanker wagons carrying 30,000 gallons of oil blew up after a train derailed, killing 17 people and injuring 200 others, 80 of them seriously.

## Ship surrender

Limasol (AP) - Twelve armed men who seized a Romanian cargo ship at Tripoli, Lebanon, and forced it to sail to Cyprus, surrendered yesterday, a police spokesman said.

## Howe's trip

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will visit Hungary from September 12 to 14 at the invitation of Hungary's Foreign Minister.

## Husain in China

Peking (AP) - King Husain of Jordan arrived here for an official 10-day visit, the second within the past year.

## Bare threat

Tel Aviv (AP) - A court has ordered a 16-year-old girl to stop walking around the house naked. Her 80-year-old stepfather claims she is trying to cause him a heart attack so that she can inherit his fortune.

## Lean time for Soviet roadhogs

From Richard Owen Moscow

After an initial flurry of on-the-spot fines and police severity Moscow motorists swiftly reverted to their bad old ways yesterday despite stiff new penalties for traffic offences.

Moscow traffic police in their distinctive red and blue peaked caps were out in force from dawn imposing fines of up to 50 roubles (£44) for speeding and dangerous driving.

This includes unauthorized overtaking (left hand lanes are reserved for government officials, most of them speeding) and illegal turns, but not failure to stop at a pedestrian crossing, since in Moscow pedestrians tend to allow cars to pass rather than the other way round.

Pedestrians also faced fines of up to 30 roubles for endangering traffic, although most of the police victims yesterday seemed to be the familiar Moscow drunks.

Soviet traffic rules are already severe, and even include penalties for driving a dirty car. Yesterday, however, police were bused into Moscow to enforce the rules more stringently than usual. As a result, there were fewer private cars in some districts, and fewer motorists moonlighting as unofficial taxi drivers.

A drive along some of Moscow's busiest roads showed that most motorists were still changing lanes recklessly, with bemused "out of towners" from the countryside the worst offenders.

Russians often complain that they are stopped for trivial or non-existent offences by policemen who let them off for a small bribe.

The authorities have tried to come to grips with the problem by purging the police force and imposing higher standards. The new head of the traffic police (GAI), Mr Viktor Piskaryov, recently warned motorists in a television appearance to obey traffic rules.

Preside said yesterday that the new law was stern, humane and just, and was necessary because of the incessant expansion of road networks. "They should improve the roads, not put up the fines", grumbled one motorist.

## New-look force to be reckoned with

## Army may make or break Lebanon

From Robert Fisk Beirut

The three Lebanese Army intelligence officers wanted to show their self-confidence. "We can control Beirut and we can go into the Chouf mountains," the youngest said. "There will be no problem."

But if there was a problem, if regular troops could not control the Druze towns and villages when the Israelis leave, would that not be the end of the Lebanese Army?

The senior of the three men stared out of the windows of the Defence Ministry office at the distant city of Beirut below. "It will be the end of the Government," he said firmly. "Not the Army."

He had clearly been thinking along these lines before and there are few American diplomats in Beirut who would not disagree. Should President Gemayel's government collapse, the Army just could turn out to be the one institution capable of saving Lebanon from anarchy.

No one talks publicly about the possibility of a military government here but the Army - in just 11 months - has turned out to be the largest, best equipped and best-trained Lebanese armed force in the country.

With a current strength of 32,000 men, the Army can, in theory, overwhelm any of the militias in Lebanon and the street battles that raged across west Beirut this week began to prove that this is also true in practice.

For the first time since it broke apart in the civil war seven and a half years ago, Lebanese soldiers actually looked like soldiers,

## French send in a carrier

Paris-The French aircraft carrier, *Foch*, was due to leave Toulon yesterday for Beirut to back up the 2,000 French troops in the multinational force, according to unconfirmed reports here. (Diana Geddes writes).

The *Foch* was expected to be accompanied by the mountain and the replenishment tanker *La Mouette*. They are to join the destroyer *Guepard* and the depot ship *Ramice*, which have been on station outside Beirut for the past few weeks.

Meanwhile, a senior adviser to President Mitterrand arrived in Beirut yesterday for talks with Lebanese officials after the deaths of the four French Legionnaires and one French security guard this week. (AP reports). Beirut radio said that M. Francois de Grossouvre, the President's Chief of Staff, was ushered immediately into a meeting with President Gemayel.

The Lebanese Government paid cash for the equipment, but it is Washington's desire to see a strong administration in Beirut that has produced the phenomenon.

Colonel Tom Pintel, head of the American Office of Military Cooperation in Lebanon, whose job is to train the new army, has

been outspoken in his praise of both officers and men.

Under the Lebanese national covenant, the army commander - like the President - must be a Christian Maronite, even though the Maronites are no longer a majority. Most of the officer class are Christian.

Yet the majority of the lower ranks are Shia Muslims. Armes, after all, tend to recruit among the poor. So this week, the Shia Muslim soldiers of the Lebanese Army found themselves fighting the Shia Muslim militias.

As long as the Army holds together, President Amin Gemayel's authority still appears credible. But the Syrians are doing their best to brand the Army as a tool of the Christian Phalange, to represent them as an alien force.

Ironically, the Americans believe - and have said so publicly - that the Syrians are cooperating in the rebuilding of the Army more than the Israelis, who refuse to permit the Shia battalions to carry arms.

But the threat of disintegration is none the less a real one. If the Army should break apart once more, what would happen to the vast number of weapons which the Americans have so enthusiastically provided?

If it does not, how long will it be before the Army in Lebanon feels its own power and attempts to use it on the Government?

been outspoken in his praise of both officers and men.

Under the Lebanese national covenant, the army commander - like the President - must be a Christian Maronite, even though the Maronites are no longer a majority. Most of the officer class are Christian.

Yet the majority of the lower ranks are Shia Muslims. Armes, after all, tend to recruit among the poor. So this week, the Shia Muslim soldiers of the Lebanese Army found themselves fighting the Shia Muslim militias.

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## West German protesters blockade American base

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

At dawn, exactly 44 years after the German invasion of Poland that started the Second World War, anti-nuclear demonstrators began a blockade of the American military depot at Mudlangen.

At the same time, 50 members of the unofficial East German peace movement who began vigils outside the Soviet and American embassies in East Berlin were removed by police, and several were arrested.

The West German peace movement's protest marked the start of a series of blockades, marches and rallies against the stationing of Nato nuclear missiles in West Germany planned for the autumn.

About 2,500 people, including Herr Heinrich Boll, the Nobel Prize-winning author, Herr Oskar Lafontaine, the left-wing Social Democratic Mayor of Saarbrücken, and Herr Erhard Eppler, a former Mayor of West Berlin, took part in a silent march round the American base.

Some 400 people then sat down in the entrance road. They will be immediately replaced as and when they are removed by police in an attempt to keep up the blockade for three days.

No incidents had been reported by yesterday. The police, who were out in force, made no move to engage the demonstrators, who sang songs and adorned the barbed wire surrounding the base with wild flowers.

They also strung a banner with the peace movement's slogan "Swords into ploughshares" on the wire near the main gate.

The peace movement believes Pershing 1 missiles are due to be

moved from the base in the next few days, but an American spokesman said traffic was normal and no rockets had been redeployed.

In East Berlin, the demonstrators, holding lighted candles, had planned a vigil lasting half-an-hour, but they were quickly surrounded by police. Four people, including an Evangelical clergyman, were arrested.

Security forces photographed those taking part, who were unable to hand in letters to the Soviet and American embassies.

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On hand: Heinrich Boll outside the US base

## 'Impotence' on Chad condemned

From Zdzislaw Pysarski New York

Sir John Thomson, Britain's representative to the United Nations, has berated the Security Council for its inactivity on the war in Chad. In terms less than diplomatic he said that the sterile debate throughout the conflict had unsuccessfully veiled the council's "handwringing impotence."

His statement was unusual for its candour in a body whose members direct their criticism at everything but the Council which is referred to in reverent terms. But his candour reflected a commonly held feeling of frustration.

Four weeks had passed since the present debate was initiated at the request of Chad, and the dimensions of the conflict had become more serious, said Sir John. Despite prolonged efforts by some members of the Council action, no measure was in sight.

Chad, a poor defenceless country with its north overrun by Libyan armaments, was a situation tailor-made for the Council, he said.

● NDIAMENA: Widespread and growing violence in the extreme south of Chad - the country's economic heartland - is causing serious concern to the Government of President Hissene Habré (AP reports).

## Falklands setback for Britain

From Our Correspondent New York

Argentina once again won a diplomatic victory at the United Nations as the 25 member Decolonization Committee yesterday overwhelmingly endorsed a resolution calling on the British and Argentine Governments to resume negotiations over the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

Nineteen members of the committee decided that the principle of negotiation promoted by Argentina throughout the debate was more important than Britain's claim that the paramount issue in the dispute was the protection of the Falkland Islanders' right to self-determination.

There were no votes against the resolution which would have been a measure of support for Britain, while five countries, Australia, Fiji, Trinidad and Tobago, Norway and Sierra Leone abstained.

● British rejection: Britain, in advance of the vote, ruled out resuming the negotiations that were broken off last year when Argentina invaded the islands. Sir John Thomson, the British representative, expressed "a degree of disappointment" that the committee charged with promoting the principle of self-determination did not show more regard "for a people whose future is at stake."

## Right-winger urges Zia to speed power transfer

From Hassan Akhter, Islamabad

Mian Tufail Mohammad, president of the right-wing Jamaati Islami party, of the right-wing has asked President Zia ul Haq of Pakistan to advance the proposed date of transfer of power to an elected government by one year, to March next year.

He also asked the President to lift the ban on political activity imposed under a martial law regulation in 1979.

Mian Tufail led his party leaders in talks with General Zia on August 28. Jamaati Islami, which has the most disciplined party cadre in the country, has supported General Zia's martial law regime.

Mian Tufail, who has opposed Zia's rule in Sindh and other parts of Pakistan since the Restoration of Democracy said chaotic conditions created by the current would result in the emergence of a more vigorous and young law in place of Zia's aging (six-year) and weakened martial law.

Later yesterday, police fired tear gas at a crowd in Karachi when it turned out to greet Mr Ghous Buz Bizenjo, leader of the Pakistan National Party and a former governor of Baluchistan, as he courted arrest by denouncing martial law.

## S Africa cuts reform debate

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

In half an hour yesterday 12 clauses of the South African Government's Reform Bill were approved by Parliament, more than one third as many as have been passed in two weeks of bitter debate.

The guillotine came down firmly late on Wednesday night on further debate in the committee stage of the measure under which three houses of parliament will be elected for whites, mixed race Coloureds and Indians, but which ensures white political domination.

They were debating clause 34 of the bill when time for the Government's submission of the bill to the House of Assembly was called. The Government's submission was opposed

the reform plan as a sell out of white self-determination, and the official opposition Progressive Federal Party, which objects to the total exclusion of blacks from the power sharing process, of trying to talk the measure to death.

Altogether 247 amendments were put during the marathon debate on the committee stage. The 69 clauses which MPs have not been able to debate are to be put to the vote without further discussion. Eight of the 12 clauses passed in the first half hour yesterday were approved only after divisions.

The rules call for the bells to be rung for two minutes before every division, which means they could

cling for a total of 20 minutes. The third reading debate will start next Wednesday and Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Community Development, who has been plotting the measure through Parliament, will reply next Friday before the House prorogues.

South Africa's white electorate will vote in a referendum on November 2 on whether it approves the Bill as passed by Parliament. But no details have yet been given by the Government about how and when it plans to test Coloured and Indian opinion.

The Government is spending an estimated £2m on a massive publicity campaign to secure a "yes" vote.



## Mexico has pulled out of its economic nosedive, President says

From Christopher Thomas, Mexico City

President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico said yesterday that the Mexican economy was "no longer in a nosedive" just a year after collapse of the currency threatened to lead Central America into a series of catastrophic defaults.

"But the crisis is still with us," he told Congress in his first State of the Nation address, nine months after taking office. Companies still had difficulties, inflation persisted, serving the nation's debt was a burden, and there was insufficient foreign exchange for imports.

The two-and-a-half-hour speech was flavoured at the beginning and end with the traditional but largely meaningless revolutionary rhetoric that permeates Mexican politics. In essence, though, it was addressed to foreign ears - the bankers and governments who were shaken last year by the suspension of payments on \$80,000m (\$53,000m) of foreign debt.

In one memorable weekend in August one of the largest financial aid packages in history was put together by the United States and other governments. Since then stringent austerity measures have been introduced - and mostly accepted without the widespread strikes that at one point looked inevitable - in return for the help of the International Monetary Fund.

Inflation has fallen below three figures (the official July figure was just under 5 per cent), unemployment has stopped surging forward

at the rate it has for most of the last 12 months and there was a \$6,300m trade surplus in the first half of the year.

But President de la Madrid gave a warning: "The international prospects are not encouraging; the challenge is enormous and analogous to times of war. The destiny of the nation is at stake."

Despite the draconian continuing measures affecting almost every Mexican, he announced salary increases of 3,000 pesos (\$15) a month for employees of the Government's executive, legislative and judicial branches and for the armed forces.

Clearly, he is anxious to avert discontent on his own doorstep. The President also touched on that most traditional of Mexican institutions - corruption - and

## Breakthrough claimed in El Salvador talks

Bogotá (Reuters) - Mr Richard Stone, the US special envoy, said talks with El Salvador's leftist guerrillas had "broken the ice" in the search for peace in Central America.

Mr Stone was speaking after nearly three hours of talks on Wednesday night with President Belisario Betancur, of Colombia, who had earlier met a representative of the guerrillas.

He arrived in Bogotá after briefing President Alvaro Magaña

of El Salvador on a meeting he held in Costa Rica on Tuesday with four representatives of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), the umbrella organization for five guerrilla groups trying to overthrow the El Salvador Government.

ISLA EL TIGRE: The United States has begun building a radar station on this Honduran island in an attempt to help stop the flow of arms from Nicaragua to guerrillas in El Salvador.

## Winning the fight against disease and destitution Things are getting better in Calcutta . . . slowly

From Michael Hamlyn, Calcutta

A man in the piercingly white robes with the bands of blue, made internationally famous by Mother Theresa, agreed. Yes, the conditions of the poor in Calcutta are getting better.

Sister Margaret Mary, who has been with the Missionaries of Charity since 1958, when Mother Theresa founded the order, smiled. "You don't get people dying and rotting in the street," she said. "You don't get young children simply thrown on to the rubbish tips."

But Calcutta is still the city of pavement dwellers. It is still a city of dense slums and hunger. The real effluence of pavement dwellers came with the inflow of two million refugees from East Bengal when it became East Pakistan in 1947.

Their numbers have been swollen from time to time as drought or flood or other natural calamities which seem endemic to Bengal have driven people from the land.

The authorities believe that maybe as many as 100,000 people live out of doors all the year round, moving to railway station platforms or bus shelters when the brief but energetic monsoon leaves the roads awash with mud and water.

People have been born and raised on the pavements, have lived their whole lives and died there. There have been marriages in which the proud father's dowry to his daughter was the best piece of pavement on the block to share with her husband.

Schools for the children of such unions are now conducted on the pavements, run by charitable



Road block: The authorities in Calcutta see no hope of ending the city's traffic chaos.

organizations such as the Little-run Church, or by former pavement dwellers who have managed to lift themselves from their poverty.

The authorities also agree with Sister Margaret Mary that things in Calcutta are getting better, however. Mr S. C. Basu, who speaks for the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority in a cluttered office not far from the Lower Circular Road from the Missionaries of Charity, pointed out that in the slums, Calcutta could regularly expect an average of 1,000 deaths a year from cholera. In the past few years they have had none.

The problems of the city were allowed to fester after independence. When finally conditions got to be so intolerable that armed revolution was visibly brewing in the streets, the responsibility for action was taken away from the city council and given to the Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA).

The CMDA speaks proudly of its achievements in bringing a better water supply to the slum dwellers. The last big water works were built by the British 120 years ago. The last main sewer was built in 1896. Now the water supply has increased from

22 gallons per head per day to 40 gallons.

There is a tap for every 25 slum houses. The CMDA has provided sanitary latrines. It has covered drains, provided concrete roads to replace the muddy tracks between the shacks. Street lighting is installed.

The authority admits to one failure, traffic. There have been a number of massive projects to speed Calcutta's citizens around the city. "At present our roads are about 100 per cent overcrowded," says Mr Basu. "In the 1990s when all of these projects are completed and working, we have

worked out that the roads will still be 100 per cent overcrowded."

One factor is making Calcutta's problems more manageable. The city's population is growing at the rate of only 0.4 per cent per year, compared with 7 per cent a year for Bombay and Delhi.

Calcutta has ceased to be quite the maged it was, as the only source of industrial employment in the eastern belt, while in the countryside the land which supported only one crop of grain a year now is more productive.

## Minister goes to aid of flood-hit Basque region

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A central Government team headed by Señor Jose Barrio nuevo, the Interior Minister, arrives today in the Basque country to work out details of huge financial assistance to one of Spain's main industrial regions, now officially a catastrophe area.

His mission is important not only in laying a basis for industrial reconstruction but for future relations between Madrid and the Basque autonomous regional government.

These had been deteriorating until last weekend's torrential rains and flooding, with an official death toll of more than 40, brought a rescue operation by the central Government.

The Cabinet, devoting its entire session on Wednesday to the problems left by the floods in northern Spain, accepted a provisional figure of the damage to industry, infrastructure, and agriculture, but excluding private homes, of more than 550 billion pesetas (£2.4 billion), one ninth of

Spain's entire national budget this year.

The Cabinet ordered Señor Barrio nuevo to open talks with Señor Carlos Garañonchea, the Basque Chief Minister, and the other regional authorities.

Many Basque industrialists foresee a two-month hiatus before they can get back into production and some 25,000 workers in a region already suffering heavy unemployment face up to three months only on unemployment pay.

This has been allowed under an emergency provision for temporary redundancies, but the future of these workers is highly uncertain.

Local economists are questioning whether the talks will mean an attempt to reconstruct, on central Government funds, local industries "in crisis" because of the depression and ETA terrorism or finally force the restructuring of the Basque region's old heavy industries.

The Basque Nationalist Party in power is closely linked to the small and medium-sized companies who have been worst hit by the flooding.

Broadcasting on state television, the Basque Chief Minister admitted the region's dependence on the central Government coming to its rescue, but spoke of the risks of favouritism in distributing financial aid.

The Interior Minister, after emphasizing that four Civil Guards had died in rescue operations, said he hoped the extent of future aid would clear up suspicions between the Basque people and the Spanish state.

Elections to the Basque Parliament are due next spring, with the Socialists strong challengers.



Señor Barrio nuevo: Mission to build trust.

## Police take fizz out of beer extortion plot

The Hague (AP) - A doctor alleged to have sought to finance a coup in Suriname has been arrested in a plot to extort \$20m (£13.5m) from Heineken brewers by threatening to adulterate his beer, police confirmed yesterday.

Dr Hendrikus Doornik, aged 41, was taken into custody on Monday near a telephone booth from which he was said to have made the last of 16 threatening telephone calls to the brewers' headquarters in the town of Zoetermeer near by.

After his arrest, Dr Doornik, a Surinamese-born Dutch citizen, allegedly said he opposed the Surinamese regime of Colonel Desay Bouterse, and wanted money to support a counter-coup against him.

Judicial authorities say they are convinced that no Heineken beer adulterated during the plot is in circulation, and no injuries were reported as a result of the scheme.

The plot began on August 4, when Heineken, the nation's largest brewer, received the "extortion demand" by letter, accompanied by a can of beer into which had been injected a small amount of a drug used to reduce heart rates.

## Manila police deny they shot protester

Manila (AP) - Police here yesterday denied responsibility for the death of a student in a three-hour clash on Wednesday in which about 40 people were injured shortly after the funeral of Benigno Aquino, the assassinated opposition leader.

The student was shot dead as soldiers and policemen battled with students protesting over the murder of Mr Aquino on August 21.

A police spokesman said that scores of people, including at least three policemen, were injured by stray bullets or missiles which he said were fired or thrown.

Mr Salvador Laurel, another opposition leader, said yesterday that President Marcos should step down and give way to a caretaker government to head off a violent revolution in the Philippines.

Mr Laurel, president of the United National Democratic Organization, said that such a caretaker government, composed of respected citizens, should investigate the assassination.

It should also implement a policy of national reconciliation by giving an amnesty to political detainees, writing a new constitution and calling a general election.

## Guerrillas kill Russians

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Nine Soviet military advisers have been killed in Cambodia by anti-Vietnamese guerrillas, according to a well-informed Western diplomat here. The diplomat, who is regarded as an authority on the military situation in Cambodia, refused to be named but said he had learnt of the incident from a "very trustworthy" source.

He said the incident occurred three weeks ago at an army training centre near Kompong Cham, 45 miles east of Phnom Penh. Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked the Russians as they were instructing Vietnamese soldiers in the use of multiple

rocket launchers. At least 10 Vietnamese soldiers had also been killed.

The incident has not been confirmed by other sources although an official of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said they had learnt that Vietnamese soldiers had been ambushed near Kompong Cham in early August.

Last year Khmer Rouge guerrillas killed Mr Nhem Heng, Deputy Agriculture Minister in the Phnom Penh Government, near the huge rubber plantation outside Kompong Cham.

About 300 Russian work in Cambodia on aid projects.

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## SPECTRUM

## Playing host to Pershing



Petra Kelly, the charismatic Green

**West Germany faces fierce anti-missile protests this autumn.**  
**Michael Binyon profiles Bitburg, already the scene of demonstrations (top)**

and thought to be a possible home for the super-fast rockets the Soviets, and others, fear

Tucked away in the hills near the Luxembourg border, Bitburg is one of those small, charming towns that typify rural Germany: prosperous, piously Catholic, staunchly conservative and of course renowned for its pilsener beer. But this quiet community, like half a dozen others in West Germany, is experiencing a hot autumn of unwelcome protests, civil disobedience and rallies by demonstrators from all parts of the Rhineland. For Bitburg is one of the possible sites where American cruise missiles will be deployed. And as the December deadline for agreement at the Geneva arms talks looms nearer, Bitburg is looking anxiously at what deployment would mean for its people, their security and their close friendship with the Americans in their midst.

Since 1952 Bitburg has been host to the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing of the United States Air Force. Some 12,000 Servicemen and their families are stationed there, doubling the population. Over the past 30 years 16,000 American children have been born in Bitburg and hundreds of servicemen have taken local brides. Inter-communal relations have been happier than in almost any other American base town in Germany. The visitors earn praise for their participation in the festivals, sports clubs and life of this small community. Their German hosts - who depend on the base and the two military airfields for their livelihood - have tried to make the Servicemen welcome. Herr Theo Hallet, the respected and outgoing mayor, makes a point of attending American func-

tions, greeting new Servicemen, settling speedily the few problems that arise between the two communities.

But even Herr Hallet, a Christian Democrat who supports the Nato twin-track decision, is uneasy at the prospect of Bitburg becoming a missile launching pad. Earlier this year he wrote to the Minister of Defence in Bonn to say his town had enough military installations already. He was told that no decision had been reached.

And indeed no one knows for sure when and whether the missiles are coming. No public announcement has been made in Bonn about what is to be deployed or where - unlike the other four Nato countries, Britain, Italy, Belgium and Holland, which have identified their sites. All the West Germans know is that the 108 Pershing 2 missiles, the lightning-fast rockets most feared by the Soviets, will be stationed in their country, probably in the same silos where the Pershing 1 missiles are now, and that these weapons will be the first to arrive. The cruise missiles, 96 out of the 464 envisaged in the Nato decision, will come later and special new bunkers will be built for them.

In the United States Congress one site for the cruise missiles was recently named: Wiesbaden, in the Hunsrück mountains. This would therefore seem to rule out Bitburg, unless the cruises are to be deployed in several different sites. However, this has not prevented the holding of anti-nuclear demonstrations in this little town. A protest, organized mainly by outsiders, was held yesterday and a blockade is due to

begin today of the American barracks. The citizens of Bitburg have been less willing to take to the streets themselves.

But elsewhere in Germany there is strong opposition to the missiles. In Trier, an ancient and larger city 25 miles away, six separate peace groups are trying to rally local people against the deployment decision. At Easter they held a number of marches that converged on Bitburg attended by about 2,000 people; in the next few weeks marches will be held all over Germany, and the Bitburg barracks like those elsewhere, will be the focus of anti-nuclear rallies.

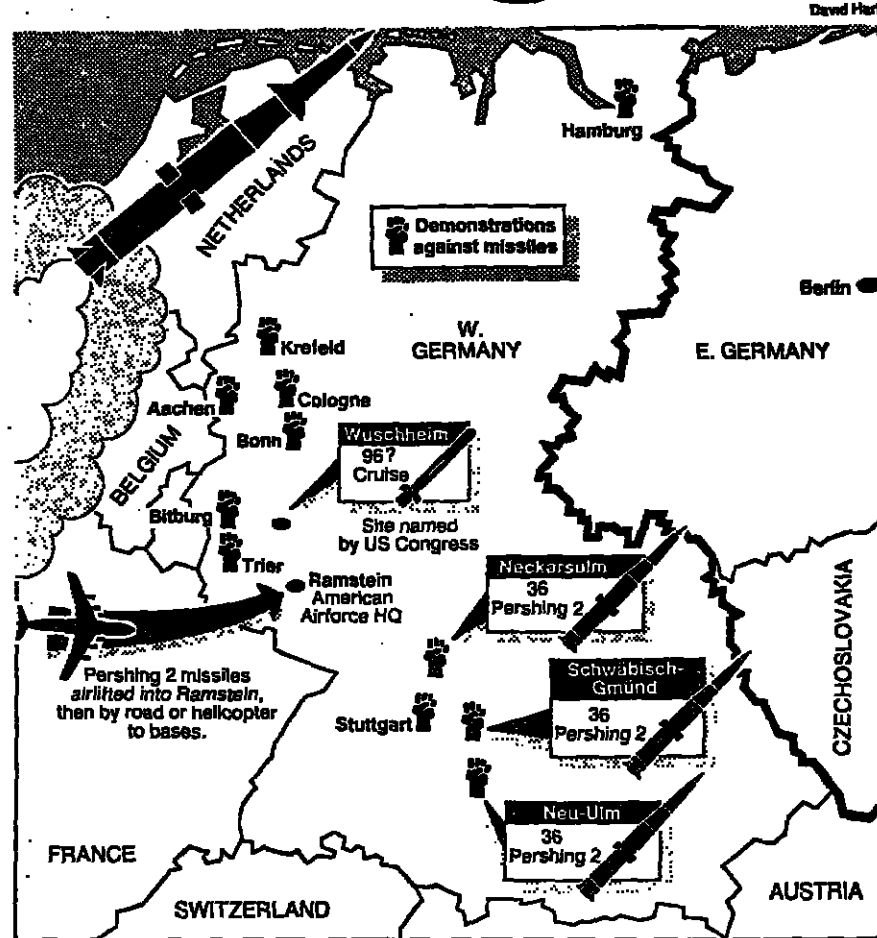
West Germany's peace movement is strong - probably stronger than that in any other Nato country. It has the backing of important sectors of the community - the trade unions, the churches, especially the radicalized Evangelical Church, and left-wing politicians, including the activist Green Party.

Most importantly, the main political opposition to the Government, the Social Democrats, are rapidly moving away from their original support for deployment (for which Herr Helmut Schmidt, as SPD Chancellor, lobbied hard before 1979) and many members have given open backing to the peace movement.

The movement's campaign will come to a climax next month. During an "action week" from October 15 until 22 there will be demonstrations throughout the country, with huge rallies in Bonn, Hamburg and Stuttgart, the European Command headquarters of the American forces in Western Europe.

The movement's leaders, including the charismatic Petra Kelly, of the Green Party, insist it will stick to non-violent methods. But the authorities are doubtful. Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Minister of the Interior, has already given warnings that professional agitators, many of them from the radical squatters in West Berlin, will infiltrate the demonstrations to stir up violence on the streets. Alarmed by the riots in Krefeld in June when demonstrators threw stones at the car of George Bush, the American Vice-President, Zimmermann has introduced a Bill to outlaw violent demonstrations.

What worries the Government especially is the prospect of violence being used against the Americans. Some 300,000 are stationed in Germany, and terrorist groups on both the far left and the far right could use the



demonstrations as a cover for renewed attacks.

But even direct action by protesters could turn ugly. In West Germany, as in Britain, the Americans will leave the protection of their bases in the first instance to local police - who will be out in strength. American soldiers will be confined to the inside of the base perimeters to deal with intruders, and have instructions to use only minimum force. But troops guarding missiles and their launchers will be sharper and tougher in their reactions. Their orders are to shoot anyone who tries to get inside the closely guarded, electronically protected igloos where the warheads will be stored.

Since his resounding election victory in March, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has made it clear that he will go ahead with deployment if necessary, no matter how many people take to the streets. His resolution, which he restated in Moscow to leave the Soviets under no illusions, has taken some of the steam out of the peace movement.

But for the opponents of deployment, West Germany is still worth fighting for. The Federal Republic is the key to the whole Nato strategy. If there is a postponement or any alteration in the timetable, or if Bonn balks at taking the Pershings, deployment of the cruises elsewhere, especially in Holland and Belgium, would be virtually impossible this year. The prospect of mass demonstrations could have a serious effect on the Geneva arms talks. For it could burden the Government with related political difficulties - such as the controversy over the new proposals on demonstrations - and upset the sensitive relationship with East Germany. The pressure is now on Dr Kohl to persuade the Americans to settle for a compromise.

Since their return from Moscow, the Chancellor and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, have publicly hinted that they would support a formula similar to that worked out by Paul Nitze and Yuli Kvititsinsky, the American and Soviet negotiators, during their famous walk in the woods last year. This envisages the deployment by the west of only 75 missiles, waiving the Pershings, with a Soviet reduction of its SS 20s to the same level.

But open backing at this stage for this compromise is seen by many in Washington as a fatal undermining of the Western negotiating position, for it presupposes a scrapping of the Pershings, the weapon that is thought to

concentrate Soviet military minds on the dangers to them of their present arms build-up. The Americans received the German hints in stony silence, and Bonn has quickly retracted all talk of such a compromise. For America and Germany know that a failure to deploy the Pershings would mean that no weapons arrive in Germany this year as the cruises will not be in position until 1986. And the resolution of the other Nato partners could be damaged.

Dr Kohl has insisted he will do what is required of him by the Alliance, and has reacted angrily to suggestions that his Government is looking for a way out. Equally, he does not want to play the role of mediator between East and West, for he knows that such an attempt would arouse damaging suspicions in Washington.

Until recently one issue that had not arisen in Germany was the control of the missiles. Bonn has never asked for and does not seek a "second key". The country has long ago renounced nuclear weapons of its own, and believes that dual control would be tantamount to going back on this tenet, which would instantly worsen Bonn's relations with the Eastern block. However, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the maverick Bavarian leader, did make just such a call during the lazy summer months. It was firmly rejected by Dr Kohl, who said there was adequate consultation in the Nato nuclear planning group.

Germans have grown used to the armies of their allies on their territory. The United States military presence in the country commands overwhelming political support, and only the extreme left and extreme right want to throw out the former occupation forces. But within Germany, and especially among the Social Democrats and those on the political left, there is a growing feeling that for too long the allies, in particular the Americans, have had too much say in what should constitute the defence of West Germany.

The citizens of Bitburg still like and trust the Americans. They do not agonize over Pentagon politics, or see in the officers who live among them the embodiment of militarism, as radicals in the big cities do. But even in Bitburg, and in the other little towns wondering if they have been chosen to take the new missiles, there is a shaking of heads. A feeling that Germany could do without such weapons. It is a feeling the negotiators in Geneva cannot altogether leave out of their calculations.

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Fringe a bit thin at Auld Reekie

Edinburgh There is a widespread legend that the Edinburgh Fringe is a hot nursery of talent, that every year new geniuses are discovered, wet behind the ears, and are then rushed down to London, heads hanging out of the train window, so that their cars can dry in time for the first triumphant London appearance. The list is endless, people say. Beyond the Fringe, Tom Stoppard, Rowan Atkinson...

As far as I can make out, the list stops right there. In the last 20 years I can't think of anyone else who has shot to immediate stardom, or, at the very least, colour magazine status. The very first fringe company I was part of, the 1963 Oxford group, contained a couple of future Monty Python members and directors like Michael Rudman and Braham Murray, but it took them years and years to inch upwards to fame and fortune. Our revue, in fact, was transferred to the London West End for a disastrous two weeks which may well have set our careers back a while, or at least warned us not to expect too much too soon. One actor, whom I remember as a very funny man, was so sobered that he is today head of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

If anything the opposite is true. There is a sort of excited buzz at the Fringe, which makes a lot of quite good things seem very good indeed. For three weeks, Edinburgh becomes a mini-version of New York, with those, that legendary excitement in the air that Essex convinces people great things are happening there. In the last six years, I have seen only a few fringe shows which were so good that I had thought they could survive the transition to London.

A one-man show by Chris Langham. A begin mine show by Bob Berk. A two-hander small called *Wet Ham v Herbs*. I saw all three in London and they were all very good. The air of it for three weeks becomes a sort of hallucinogenic drug.

This year there are apparently more revues than ever, more cabaret and comedy and fewer Brecht and gay theatre companies, which seems to back up the theory about people gagging under the pressure of the general standard seems pretty high, with nothing particularly outstanding. I very much enjoyed the Omelette Broadcasting Company's evening of totally improvised comedy, though to an actor with workshop training, I guess it would appear less than astounding.

There were lots of good things in a show called *Wow*. The National Theatre of Brent is excellent. Nola Rae is a very observant and beguiling mime, with a version of Hamlet performed entirely with her hands. She should get this year's Shakespeare award.

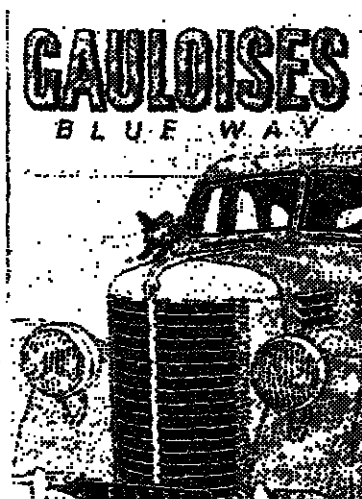
But was it all just the Edinburgh air? I don't quite think so. As by contrast I was very disappointed by the show which is said to be the hottest ticket in town, *Stand Up Comedy*. This is the label for three of our so-called New Wave comedians, Ben Elton, Andy de la Tour, and Rik Mayall. Mayall could be a bit of a also genius, I think, but the other two rely entirely on the remembrance of their past as the dole, the police and drugs, in a style devoid of timing or light and shade which would have a seemed old fashioned in 1930, and makes 985 Alexei Sayle look very good indeed.

Norman Tebbit is in the New Wave what mothers-in-law are to Les Dawson; only the jokes aren't nearly so good. I have to record faithfully that a lot of the audience felt about rather university union audiences, rather about when the name of the union librarian is mentioned, or as rock audiences clap, 000 themselves when they recognize the start of a number.

What startles me most is that the one showed I was really bowled over by in the comed His field was not New Wave or revue, as I improvised or mimed. It was the Brass Band, five hugely gifted musicians from California who play immaculate versions of Tchaikovsky, Brahms and other sacred stuff, with downing around as relentlessly as a Walpolean cartoon. I usually find it easy to resist manic American comedy styles, but the wonderful musicianship of these five, especially the two trumpeters, who have struck up a partnership like two Harpo Marx - battered down my defences and left me helpless.

The question still remains, though: Would enjoy them as much in London? The luck thing is that, up here in Edinburgh, it seems totally remote questions. And now, if you excuse me, I have another five shows to go before sundown.

## Tradition up in smoke



The traditional blue Gauloises soft pack might represent the height of Gallic chic in Britain, but not in France. The French hate the idea of being written off by the rest of the world as a lot of baguette carrying, beret wearing driving around in pre-war Citroens. In fact they feel much happier with shiny, up to the minute mid-Atlantic techno-flash, cars like lunar modules, improbably futuristic airports and bright pink skyscrapers.

All of which goes a long way to explain why Seita, the state owned French tobacco monopoly, found itself in the gloomy position of watching its own sales dropping in the face of booming imports of sharper

American brands like Marlboro, which the French saw as more sophisticated.

So Seita decided to start selling a revamped pack, side by side with the old-style Gauloises. But rather than let a French designer loose on a pack that's almost as much part of the French style as the tricolour, they asked London-based Michael Peters to have a go. He had kept the blue, and the winged helmet trademark, but otherwise everything barring the contents, has changed.

In fact there are two different packs - one with a steam train on it, and this, slightly surreal version can not please note, a Citroen. France's law stops cigarette ads showing anything but the pack itself. Having two alternatives helps ring the changes.

In France they have already become the smart cigarette to smoke. Seita, which thinks the packs are helping it sell more cigarettes, is happy, and there is talk about launching the new look here. Health campaigners, on the other hand will, not be quite so delighted.

"It is good design that makes people products, and which gives products a good name", Mrs Thatcher says. "It's essential for the future of our industry." But despite the importance which the Prime Minister and a growing number of industrialists attach to design, it is in some ways still a cottage industry, the vast majority of whose practitioners are one-man bands working from kitchen tables.

Of the 200 product design firms registered with the Design Council, for example, fewer than ten employ more than six designers. And of the 350 graphic design businesses on the Design Council's records, fewer than 15 employ more than 45 people.

## FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: DESIGN



Apart from a motley collection of regimental memorials, some modest cairns and crosses, and the small Falklands Government plaque, there is no single national monument to those who died in the Falklands War last year. It is a lack that has inspired a London-based group of designers, architects and engineers, called Transfer, to come up with a design for a major landmark that would be strong enough to serve as a permanent memorial, but which would be light and portable enough to be flown out to the South Atlantic, and helicoptered into position. They came up with a 40 metre high

## Checking-out

The next profession to be joining the endangered species list looks like being airport check-in staff, at least if data equipment manufacturer NCR gets its way.

According to a report in *Design Magazine*, NCR, with a highly successful computer operated bank till already under its belt, is now turning its attention to airports.

Research into how people used the bank machines told NCR that while automation might initially intimidate customers, once they had actually mastered the technique they often preferred queuing to use a machine than walking straight up to a human.

So NCR commissioned design consultants Douglas Kelley Associates to design a machine that could tackle the far more complex task of checking-in arriving passengers, selling tickets, accepting baggage and making reservations. The result is something called the Skylink, which is now making a sales trip around the airline executive offices of the world.

Feed it a credit card, and it will sell you a ticket; put in a magnet coded ticket, and it hands out boarding passes. At the design stage Kelley tried two alternative arrangements for the console: tall and thin like a space invader machine, and short and fat, which turned out to present fewer problems.

Even more important was the need to design the machine so that it could mollify and soothe confused and jet-lagged passengers. The first thing the machine's screen asks you is what language you want to use. Then, to reassure you that you are not going to lose your credit card for ever just at

## Show trial

In November, the Barbican will be housing the biggest ever exhibition of the work of Britain's design schools. The whole of the centre's art gallery will be occupied by work from more than 600 students and ex-graduates.

The point is to show the breadth and the quality of what they can do. But this is not simply a celebration. According to Professor Bruce Archer of the Royal College of Art, the whole of the art and design school system is on trial at the moment. "The Department of Trade and the Department of Education have both given us substantial sums to put this on, and I've no doubt that the reason is to give them a chance to examine our claims to be doing a good job."

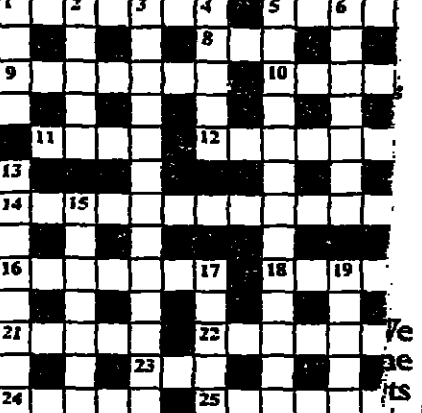
Professor Archer thinks that after the golden age of the 1950s and 1960s the art schools, and their design courses in particular, lost their way. To find out what went wrong, and what can be done about it, he is organizing a series of conferences that will run with the exhibitions. They will be run like public inquiries, with inspectors - who include Sir Monty Finniston, the former British Steel chairman, and radio presenter Brian Redhead and opposing counsel who will be cross-examining witnesses.

But what it all comes down to is examining fairly just how good our designers are, secondly, how useful are they to us, and thirdly if they are so useful, why aren't they used more effectively?

Deyan Sudjic

## CONCISE CROSSWORD

(No 139)



**ACROSS**  
1 Engaged woman (7)  
5 Grass cutter (5)  
8 New (3)  
9 Grazed (7)  
10 Nostrils (5)  
11 Mounted game (4)  
12 Of the mind (7)  
14 Demure (4,3,6)  
16 Spelling (7)  
18 Red (4)  
21 Infinitive (5)  
22 Trembles (7)  
23 Draft (3)  
24 Wall painting (5)  
25 Stiff fabric (7)

**DOWN**  
2 Bust (4)  
3 Friend (5)  
4 Of provincial (4)  
6 Conclusion (3,2)  
7 Therapeutic (6)  
13 Statement of principle (8)  
15 To such a degree (5)  
17 Zest (5)  
19 Unsolved (5)  
20 Largest count (4)

**SOLUTION TO No 138**  
ACROSS: 1 Canter 5 Modify 6 Era 7 Favor 17 Pheasant 20 Gulp 23 Orator 24 Nor 25 Broody 26 Wesley  
DOWN: 2 Atria 3 Traffic 4 Realise 5 Dread 7 Feigner 14 Palaver 15 C 16 Vagrant 18 Beryl 19 Irony 21 Loose  
Prize-winning Concise Crossword tournament



MEDICAL BRIEFING

The hidden dangers of heartburn

Most people accept an occasional bout of heartburn - that sharp, burning sensation felt just above the stomach - as a small price to pay for rich food and overindulgence. But anyone who suffers it frequently (three or four times a week) should go and see their GP because, although it may seem a trivial complaint, there may be a more serious reason for the heartburn.

This advice follows a study of 126 patients in the Belfast area who had regular bouts of heartburn. Heartburn is often thought to be caused by "reflux oesophagitis", a condition in which stomach juices are propelled upwards into the channel leading from the mouth to the stomach. Because the juices are acidic they "irritate" the delicate lining skin.

But examinations of the Belfast patients suggest that heartburn is a far from simple symptom. Of the 126 examined only 21 had no abnormalities. Forty-five per cent of the other 105 patients suffered from reflux oesophagitis, and the others had a range of more serious complaints from active ulcers and hernias to inflammation of the lower part of the digestive tract.

A jet lag pill?

Taking a pill to counteract the effects of jet lag would be the dream of every international traveller's dream. And at the University of Surrey some fascinating research into the natural hormone melatonin suggests it might be possible within the decade.

Melatonin, secreted by the pineal gland in the brain during night time, is known to regulate daily behaviour in animals.

In humans the effects of the hormone are not well defined although it is known to help people sleep. Jet lag results from lack of sleep and a disturbed 24-hour rhythm. In theory, any agent which could speed up the resynchronization of the human clock should minimize the symptoms.

Dr Josephine Arendt of the Department of Biochemistry at Surrey has been working on the possibility of using melatonin as such an agent, though she stresses that the research is only in its theoretical stage.

Dr Arendt argues that if you take melatonin every day for three or four days before a long flight - at the time you would be going to bed at your destination - your body should gradually adapt to the new time zone.

Alternatively, you could take melatonin after the flight at local night time both to send you to sleep and to superimpose a new time artificially on your natural body rhythm.

Dr Arendt had recently flown the Atlantic and used melatonin three days before she flew. She suffered no jet lag.

Rising cancer toll

Death rate from lung cancer in women continues to creep up in the USA, according to the American Cancer Society which estimates that 17 per cent of all cancer deaths among women in 1983 will be due to lung cancer. This percentage is exceeded only by that for breast cancer which is running at 18 per cent for all cancer deaths.

In Britain, it is thought that lung cancer mortality will overtake breast cancer mortality in the next few years.

Although there are fewer smokers in this country, 33 per cent of the population in 1982 compared with 37 per cent in 1980, women are giving up smoking at a slower rate than men.

Animal ailments

Experts at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Public Health Laboratory Service have called on doctors and vets to cooperate in combat diseases passed on to man from animals. At the moment bacterial infections in meat, poultry and milk which cause stomach upsets are the most troublesome of these diseases in this country. But a paper in last week's British Medical Journal expresses concern that other illnesses passed on from sheep and pigs could become important.

It points out that it has been known since 1940 that most salmonella infections in man came from animals, yet the problem is not yet under control. Bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis took more than 30 years to eradicate. The authors propose that a special task force of doctors be set up to study the diseases and act quickly in an outbreak.

Vitamin peril

If you take extra vitamin B6 as a matter of routine you may be wise to spare your daily intake. The normal daily requirement of vitamin B6 for adults is only 2 to 4 mg. The vitamin is freely available at chemists, however, and many people take it to their diet. It is also frequently recommended in doses of 80-150 mg to help combat premenstrual syndrome.

But doctors in America are warning that, while these doses of the vitamin may be safe, taking larger doses on the basis that "more is better" could have disastrous consequences. They have seen seven people who became ill because they took as much as 14 to 20 times the usual daily supplement. Over a period of time the individuals developed clumsy, uncoordinated and numb limbs.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Lee Rodwell on the problems facing Britain's two million illiterate adults

The plight of society's write-offs

When the adult literacy campaign was launched in 1975 many people saw it as a quick "mopping up operation", a short term measure which would virtually wipe out adult illiteracy in Britain within a few years. The recent report by the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit (ALBSU) dispelled this notion once and for all.

Large numbers of children are still leaving school so ill equipped in the basic skills of reading, writing and spelling that they face real difficulties coping with everyday life. The number of functionally illiterate adults is now officially estimated at two million. As if that was not disturbing enough, the report also indicated that the adult literacy programme is failing to reach the majority of those who could benefit from it: however, hampered by their inability to fill in forms, read job advertisements or write letters, only 15 per cent had ever attended courses to improve their reading and writing skills.

Some progress has been made in the past eight years. Before 1975, provision for adult literacy tuition was patchy and only an estimated 5,000 to 10,000 adults were receiving help at any one time. Now, every local education authority runs some kind of literacy scheme and approximately 80,000 adults a year are getting help with basic skills.

Those working within the field of adult literacy are well aware of the financial limitations imposed on them. Mr Alan Wells, head of ALBSU, says: "What we have done so far is merely scratching the surface. We will have to look at our priorities within the educational system. At present most of the resources are spent on those who have done well within the basic education system, while those who have not done well get next to nothing. It is like having a health service that only provides for the healthy."

Yet it is not a question of money alone. Peter Levenson, Norfolk's Adult Literacy Officer, says: "We are still not making learning fun. We are not getting the message across that you can still learn things, even though you found them difficult in the past. Adult education still has a middle class image. People don't necessarily want to go back to an institution, to a building with an 'education' label."

Feedback to various literacy projects

suggests that large numbers of adults are unaware of the schemes set up to help them; those who do know assume the teaching will be formal. Some lack the confidence to take the first step - it is still seen as embarrassing or shameful to admit to literacy problems - and others are deterred by practical difficulties such as the lack of a creche.

All kinds of different approaches are being tried to give adult literacy schemes popular appeal. Classes and courses are being augmented by reading clubs, and drop-in centres which offer immediate help in form filling and letter writing.

In Sheffield, classes have been held in a pub, in a bingo hall and in a health centre, places where people need not feel self-conscious if a neighbour spots them coming or going. Manchester has just appointed a media liaison assistant, Barbara Hawkins, who is looking at the possibilities of working with local radio and television. She says: "We have to widen our approach to attract students. It's no good distributing leaflets and posters to people who don't read. And you can't expect people to come simply because they've been through the school system and failed. They are quite likely to feel they don't want to come back to school and fail again."

If the adult literacy experts accept that they have to change their approach in order to reach more people, they also feel that society should change its approach to the whole question of reading and writing skills. Alan Wells says: "Literacy is a concept that changes all the time. A hundred years ago you were illiterate if you put an X and a literate if you could sign your name."

"These days there is so much people have to be able to read in their daily lives - forms from local government departments, bills, notes from your child's school. No one ever suggests that there is anything odd about going to classes to brush up your French, even though you might have been taught French at school. We need to recognize that improving your reading and writing at 35 is a valuable and reasonable thing to do."

It is clear from a recent report by Her Majesty's Inspectors that the situation is likely to get worse, not



Robert: I got desperate

When Robert Merry went for his first job as a crane driver at Vauxhall Motors in Luton, Bedfordshire, he had to ask his brother to fill in his application form. He left school barely able to write his name and address or read anything other than signs which said No Exit or Way Out.

Now 24 years old, he struggles to explain why he never learnt to read and write at school and why it took him four years before he decided to look for help.

"When I first went to school I got along quite well, but then I fell out with some of the teachers," he says. They put me on those Janet and John books and I just got bored. When I went to the secondary school I was going quite well but then I came up against the same problem. I just rebelled, I skived off for about two years. I never thought about the future, I didn't think about all the things I'd have to do when I left school.

"I did go to remedial classes, but I was way behind my age group. The teachers didn't seem that bothered. They knew I'd be doing labouring or some low-grade job. It wasn't too bad. I could read a very basic sentence and I could make out what trains were going to London or Bedford. You pretend a lot. If someone hands you a newspaper you make out you're reading it and you pick up enough from the news on television to keep a conversation going.

"But in the end I got desperate. I had to take a test because I wanted to upgrade my job and I didn't do too well. I was thinking of going on a TOPS course and the jobscentre suggested I contact an adult literacy scheme.

"I was really nervous - I didn't know what to expect. But it wasn't like school. No one forced you to do anything. I started to write from my own experiences, what it was like at work, things like that. And a year ago I started to read for pleasure. When I was a kid I wouldn't have dreamed of reading for fun."

Robert has now been working on his English for four years and he has his own theories why people fail to apply for the kind of help he has been getting.

"When people talk about illiterates you don't think that applies to you. Maybe you just feel you need to brush up your spelling or something. Also people are afraid it's going to be too much like school. But it isn't like that at all. Before, you think you're the only person like that in the world, so it's great to meet people who've been through the same kind of things. A lot of people treat you quite rough if you can't read or write very well. They have the attitude that you must be thick, you should have got it all at school."

Mark: They called me an idiot

In an old school building in Charles Street, Luton, a group of adults have enrolled for a course to improve their English.

For some, such as the Asians, English is a second language. Others include Mark Reed, who has spent all his 19 years in Luton, 11 of them at local schools.

It is not the first time Mark has tried to improve his reading and writing. When he left school he did a one-year college course. When he left his job in a supermarket (because he could not check the prices and stocklists well enough to cope with filling the shelves) he joined a twice-weekly evening class.

He left before the course was completed and his English is still so limited that he cannot read a bus timetable or fill in forms without help. So why did he give up?

Mark says: "School was OK. It was just that I was a slow learner. When I was 11, I was sent to a special school for slow learners and I enjoyed it very much. I got on all right. Then I was sent to college for a year where they had special groups for English and I got on quite well there. Then I had a job under a government scheme working in a supermarket putting the food on the shelves."

"I found it very hard just checking the price tags, sticking on prices and reading off the list which told you what was on the shelves. I knew they were going to say something about it, so I



What future for Mark?

left before they could and I was put back on the dole. "Then I got in touch with Charles Street (the Special Adult Learning Programme's headquarters) and they sent me to classes at Stopley twice a week, about five minutes from where I live."

"I went for a while but I got a girlfriend and other things got in the way. She didn't mind me going but I'd rather see her than go to class. She helps me to read if I get stuck on a word. Her English is OK. But some people have called me an idiot in the past. I went on an electrical course which had a lot of writing and when some of the other pupils saw my writing they called me an idiot."

"It's not too bad most of the time. I

sometimes have a look at a paper and I watch the television news to keep up with things. When I go for my money they sign the form here and I just sign my name."

"But now I want a job at Vauxhall - or any job that comes up. I want to get to the standard where I can do some exams to get more qualifications and try for better jobs. In most jobs you have to read off different bits of paper."

"This course is better because it's a daytime one. It's better than sitting at home on the dole and it's helpful to have your evenings free."

Whether Mark completes the course this time remains to be seen. Many of the students drop out. SALP recently researched why. The most common reasons were moving or getting a job or going on a full-time course. Other reasons included pregnancy, family problems, health problems and a dislike of learning.

Jolie Stephens, who carried out the research, says: "Many of these answers do not show the underlying reasons that were often hinted at during the course of an interview - high cost of fares, housing difficulties, low motivation."

"Of all of these, in my opinion, low motivation is a major factor. Although they may agree that they need to improve their English, after a few weeks other problems take over and they stop coming to tuition."

Or as Mark would put it: Other things get in the way.

A victim of old habits

Sometimes, when I tuck the ironing, I come across large white handkerchiefs with my name tapes sewn on. They date from my first entering a religious order. (I have twice been a member of a religious community, in an active community and in an enclosed order, for periods of four and a half years). In September, 1968 I had arrived at the convent with two suitcases containing what was left of my worldly possessions and those items considered indispensable to the religious life. They included three high-necked, long-sleeved, ankle-length nightdresses and 14 large white gentlemen's handkerchiefs.

I ceased to be a nun two years ago but the handkerchiefs have not worn out yet, so the past is still around. Each time I apply for a job, I wish that I could conceal my nine years in the religious life, but it is difficult to concoct a convincing explanation for the two mysterious gaps in my curriculum vitae.

Two unfortunate marriages, or prison sentences or long hospitalization for intriguing diseases seem hardly plausible, though at times they seem less embarrassing than the fact that I used to be a nun. Employers tend to react as if I am the victim in a Gothic horror story and not really a serious contender in the business of getting a job. The chances of an ex-nun getting a job are remote when she lacks the experience and the qualifications which the other applicants possess.

When I was in the enclosed order my whole life was of a routine domestic

FIRST PERSON

nature, cleaning and cooking with some non-skilled outdoor experience (which is another way of describing weeding and raking up leaves). Consequently, I cannot claim that I possess four-and-a-half years' relevant experience when I am applying for a teaching or social work job.

I have trained as a teacher and did teach drama for a year, 15 years ago, but preference obviously must be given to better-qualified and more experienced applicants.

Signing on at the unemployment benefit office was a harsh encounter with the regular world after the insulated existence in a contemplative community, where we were prepared for nothing more demanding than singing plain songs in the convent chapel at High Mass. After three months of unemployment I managed to get a job as an education welfare officer and a new life in the twilight world of truant schoolchildren and clothing grants began. It seemed a bearable stopgap until something better turned up. Nothing did turn up. In today's economic climate stopgap jobs seem to become the last jobs before early retirement.

I have applied for all kinds of jobs including those in journalism, museums, research for television and, once, in a reckless moment, I applied for the position of Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Commons. I thought my previous experience of

ceremonial in the convent chapel might be an advantage. It was not.

In the past, former nuns have written books about their lives in religious communities. Regrettably my experience was undistinguished and inclined to be monotonous (apart from accidentally causing a minor fire in the refectory one morning) - not enough to produce a musical like *The Sound of Music* or best-sellers like the James Herriot vet books. The most I could glean from the stubble in the cloisters was a light-hearted article about the problem of getting to the nearest Marks & Spencers when the sisters in an isolated convent needed to buy their underwear. The article appeared in a women's magazine and led to an offer of some second-hand bras from a generous reader who had grown out of hers.

My present job as an education welfare officer probably offers more scope for a book about occupational hazards. Certainly the transition from a convent in the country to the backstreets of a large town in pursuit of truant school children was astonishing.

But how to use all this vivid first hand material in a book which will not offend my employers, as any description of education welfare work would expose its ineffectiveness as well as its humour? No one wants a disenchanted education welfare officer, nor even one with energy and imagination. Why should they?

Penelope Dent

THE TIMES Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



Family Money: From fees to uniforms, how much does it cost to educate a child?



Speed and spills on water: Jet skiing and speed sailing

David Hughes on the search for an emperor's dinner service  
Travel: Vertigo in the Pyrenees, vacancy in the Philippines  
Sport: Youth v experience in the NatWest cricket final

GREAT WIN-A-CAR COMPETITION

Plus

All the news from home and abroad; Values: Children's shoes; wines of the month; Family Life on keeping pets; Review of rock records; Critics' choice of the coming week's events in the arts



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Blackballed

The Barbican concert hall is being stripped of its balls. Almost 2,000 of them, big ones and little ones, have been taken away by night from the hall ceiling, where they had been the principal architectural feature. The last handful will be removed this week, as part of the continuing efforts to improve the hall's acoustics. The balls were ruled out of court by the pianist Maurizio Pollini, a close friend of Claudio Abbado, principal conductor of the LSO, the Barbican's resident orchestra. Pollini went to test the acoustics at the Barbican one morning in the early spring, and his refusal to perform in the hall while the balls remained successfully knocked them for six. Pollini will now play at the Barbican in December, and anyone who is short of balls should apply to the Barbican's administrator, Henry Wrong, who has plenty to spare.

## Pearl of wisdom

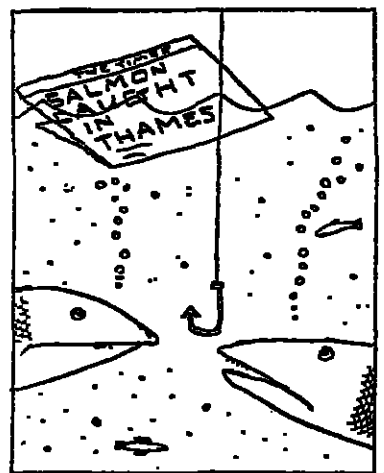
The power of the press does not extend to the Edinburgh fringe. The "diaries" of the nineteenth century courtesan, Cora Pearl, which *The Sunday Times* exposed as a hoax perpetrated by the author, Derek Parker, are cheerfully offered for sale outside the otherwise authentic one-night musical *Cora*, starring Dana Gillespie. Had Gillespie performed some of the things described in the diaries, I doubt the Edinburgh elders would have permitted the show, even on the fringe.

● A car-sticker on a Ford Cortina seen in Chelsea said: "Support the SDP - Vote Kinnock/Meacher."

## Mal de mer

Lord Balfour of Inchrye is one of many whose stories do not appear in *Tales out of School: The Early Misdeeds of the Rich and Famous* published yesterday by Collectors' Books in aid of Help the Aged. Balfour wanted the story of how he contrived to be expelled from naval college because he did not like the sea to appear anonymously. By the time he realised it was too late, but Balfour may find space in a sequel. Two hundred others who responded to the charity's appeal for anecdotes will not be so lucky. Their offerings were rejected as boring, with stars of stage and screen fared particularly badly. Any rejects who feel they could do better given a second chance will receive sympathetic consideration in this column.

## BARRY FANTONI



"Personally, I preferred pollution"

## Let us spray

Bootsie and Pittypat rest in peace with 49,000 acridobutyls at Aspin Hill cemetery, Maryland, where the director, Martha Nash, takes her work very seriously. "We had a store-bought turtle here the other day," she says, "and seven funeral cars came to pay their respects. Recently we buried a squirrel, but the most unusual corpse was Pesky. A 3in by 3in box came with a note saying 'Pesky, give Pesky a decent burial.' We have enjoyed his company for three years. I opened the box, and there was a dead fly. I buried him with ceremony under the nearest azalea bush."

● A supplementary benefit claimant wrote to the Thanet office: "I thought I would drop you a line to say why I have moved back into my mum until this is all over."

## Talking Turkey

According to its brochure, from Denizli, Turkey, "The Alantur Hotel has been run centum of Denizli where you can merchandise easily. Cover with every-where in it (fadders, balls, rooms, restaurant and lobby from side wall to wall with carpet. Decorated suitable chairs and sofas. Good food. You will find polite and smiling personnel just you come in. You can find every kind of drinking and relaxing on our american bar in the lobby. And accept your guest proudly. In our restaurant which decorated on about character of Denizli. Being served you from Turkish and European kitchen what you want to order by the chosen waiters. On terrace view of extraordinary panorama of Denizli will give you exact relax."

Furthmuth council is looking for a dead-end to mark the 40th anniversary of D-Day next year. It must be an original, and unexplored. The Imperial War Museum has one mounted on a launching frame but it would be too difficult and expensive to move. The Science Museum would have one on display but it was displaced, along with a Japanese Zero kamikaze airplane, to make room for some bits and pieces of Concorde, and now they are not sure they can find it. A small delegation is accordingly to set sail for Normandy next week to treat with a farmer who allegedly found one in a tree and buried it in his back garden, where it has mouldered ever since. The negotiations with the wily Norman will be as nothing compared to the wheeling and dealing with bemused Customs officials on both sides of the Channel.

PHS

# Old tensions behind the lost jet

The claimed shooting down of a South Korean airliner near Sakhalin has brought into focus an area of long-standing tension between the Soviet Union and the East Asian countries of Japan, the two Koreas and China.

The Russians have an endemic fear of "yellow hordes", dating from their subjugation by the Tartars in the Middle Ages and reinforced in this century by the Tsarist empire's humiliating defeat by Japan in 1905 and the more recent 20-year-old ideological conflict with Peking. European Russians are constantly aware of the disparities between thinly-populated Siberia and the one billion Chinese to the south.

Sakhalin, the area where the Korean Airlines jumbo jet disappeared yesterday, was under joint Russian-Japanese control until 1875, when it came completely under Tsarist jurisdiction. The Japanese victory over Russia in 1905 gave Japan the southern island after the Second World War.

At the same time the Russians also occupied the southern Kurile Islands, which lie to the south east of Sakhalin between the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido and the Soviet Kamchatka Peninsula. Moscow's refusal even to discuss Tokyo's claim to these islands has bedevilled relations between the two countries since then.

In 1978, the Russians showed their traditional fear of East Asian power by trying to prevent the signing of a treaty of friendship between Japan and China. They objected in particular to an anti-begemony clause which they saw aimed at them.

While the Soviet Union adamantly refuses to consider surrendering even an inch of the South Kuriles, Moscow does want a treaty with Tokyo - on its own terms. The Russians may exorcise the Japanese fear of their involvement with the United States, but they have also shown an awareness of the need to involve Japan in the economic exploitation of the vast mineral wealth of Siberia.

This has led to joint work between the two countries on coal and offshore oil projects. Superior technology and financial resources are the strongest cards the Japanese have to play in their long-term dealings with the Russians, although Soviet ability to go ahead with the gas pipeline in the face of President Reagan's attempted sanctions has shown the limits of economic power when it comes to trying to put pressure on Moscow.

As well as involving the Japanese in the economic development of Siberia, the Russians would like to undermine the Japanese-American security treaty

by reaching an agreement of their own with Japan.

The Soviet Union has no diplomatic relations with South Korea. After the surrender of Japan in 1945, the Russians occupied the northern part of the Korean peninsula and the Americans moved into the south. This division was sealed by the Korean War (1950-53), in which the Russians and Chinese supported the North Koreans under Kim Il-sung and the Americans came to the rescue of the South Koreans. For the past 33 years the two sides have been locked in classic Cold War antagonism on both sides of the 38th Parallel.

Today, the United States has nearly 40,000 soldiers and airmen in South Korea, while the Soviet Union has been the main supplier of weaponry to the North Koreans.

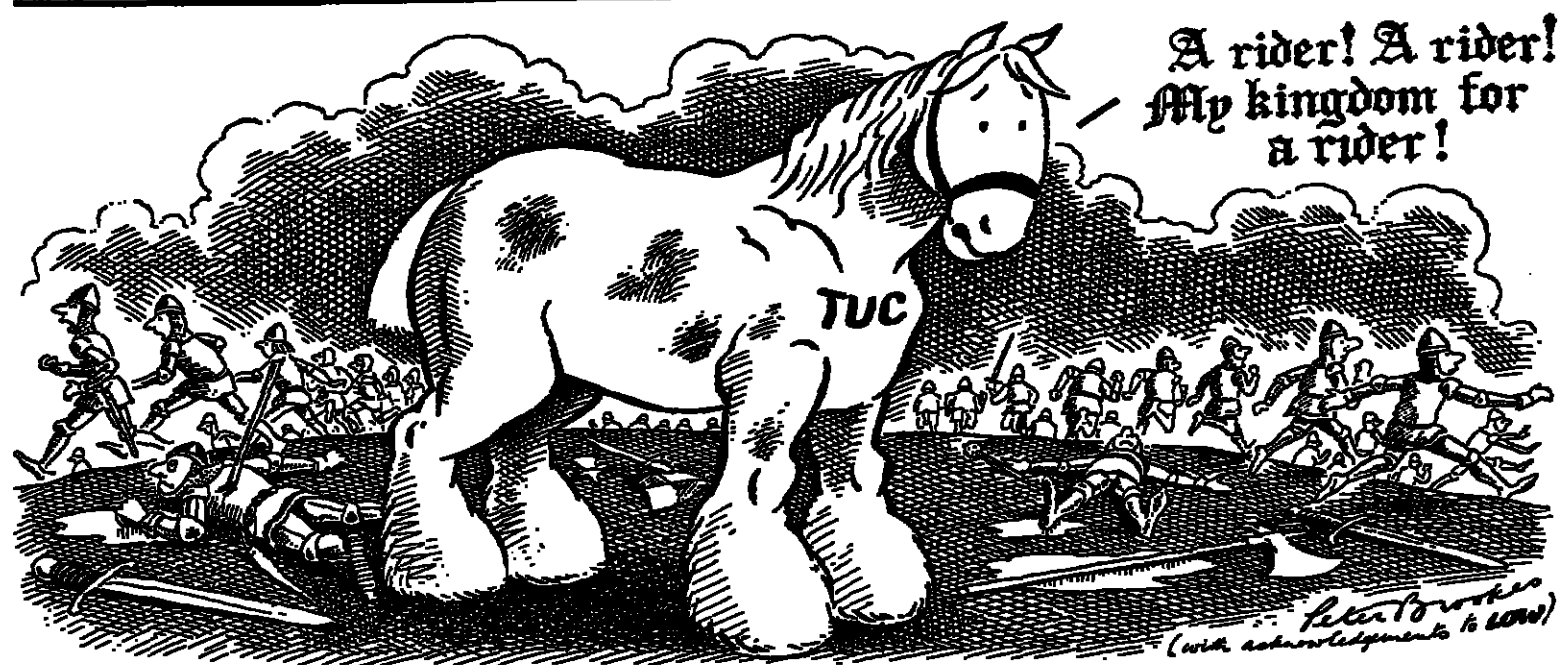
In 1978 another Korean Airlines jet flew off course over the heavily fortified Kola Peninsula. European Russia and was forced down on a frozen lake 300 miles south of Murmansk. The fact that the Russians allowed the passengers and crew to return to South Korea, instead of sending them direct to North Korea, was seen in Seoul as *de facto* recognition by Moscow of the South Korean government.

For some years the Russians have allowed South Koreans to attend international conferences in the Soviet Union and there have been two recent visits by Russian officials to Seoul since last autumn. Commentators in Seoul see these visits as a warning by Moscow to North Korea not to become too heavily committed to the Chinese. Kim Il-sung has skilfully played off the two communist superpowers against each other since he came to power at the end of the Second World War. The ideological rift between Moscow and Peking has given him even greater scope for this balancing act.

As the host of the 1988 Olympic Games, South Korea is hoping that both the Soviet Union and China will send athletes to Seoul, thus paving the way for the normalizing of relations between South Korea and the communist world.

Meanwhile, the tensions aroused by the fate of the South Korean airliner show how hard it is to break the web of suspicion and animosity between the Soviet Union and its East Asian neighbours.

Simon Scott Plummer and Denis Taylor



# The beginning of the end for the unions?

by Paul Routledge

Margaret Thatcher's accession to power in 1979 coincided with a record high level of trade union membership in Britain. Aided by favourable public opinion and sympathetic labour laws enacted by the Wilson-Callaghan government, the number of people carrying a union card had risen to 12,200,000 - 52 per cent of the working population.

Much was made of it at the time. The unions take the numbers game very seriously, as representative organizations, they consider they must. The more members they have, the more clout they believe that have; falling membership equals diminished influence.

There is also a kind of corporate self-confidence about the Labour movement. Burgeoning membership tends to make union leaders and members more bullish in their policy making. Pay claims are larger and pushed with more determination. Increased revenue from subscriptions puts unions in a stronger position to fight set-piece battles with employers. And there is a political gain-off as demands upon government become more ambitious.

The latest official figure for trade union membership given in the TUC General Council's report to the Blackpool congress next week is 10,510,157. This is for December 31, 1982, and the present level is certainly lower. It is difficult to calculate the loss, but judging by the TUC's own financial arithmetic, the true figure is moving below 10,000,000 - and hence just below the psychologically important 50 per cent share of the working population.

Len Murray, the TUC General Secretary, will no doubt insist at his pre-conference briefing that the British Labour movement is still the most representative in the free world. But how much longer can it stay that way?

As the accompanying table shows, the membership decline has gone practically across the board. Most unions have suffered a drop of about 10 per cent and for some it has been more savage. The seamen's union has been practically halved and the giant oil workers' union has lost more members than its rivals ever dreamed of having. From a peak of around 2,300,000 touched in the late 1970s, it is now thought to be down to about 1,400,000.

Like the recession that has largely prompted it, the decline has gone across most industries, trades and services, although heavy industry has been hardest-hit. The construction union, UCATT, has suffered a 25 per

cent drop and the engineering workers have lost at least 200,000 members. Their actual paying membership is down to 850,000, according to the AUEW annual return to the Government-appointed certification officer.

The public-service unions have not fared so badly. NUPE has remained practically stable over the last five years, although recent figures (until now not published) disclose it is now 697,000. NALGO is still 30,000 above its 1979 total and is embarking on aggressive counter-measures to prevent Conservative local authorities such as Birmingham City Council from undermining its membership base by ending the "check-off" system of paying union dues. The two big civil service unions have each lost just over 10 per cent of their members in the wake of Whitehall job cuts. The postal workers have experienced a small decline.

However, all the public service unions face the threat of increased "privatization" during Mrs Thatcher's

second term of office. The key element in any free-enterprise tender for public work is lower manning, lower wage costs or virtual de-recognition of the union. Sometimes all three are proposed and a sharp fall in public-service unionization is bound to follow. Small wonder that the privatization debate is expected to be such a big issue next week.

In the nationalized industries, industrial decline has been matched by union decline. Closures and cutbacks in coal mining, the steel industry, shipyards, on the railways, at British Airways and on the bus network have all contributed to a massive reduction in public-sector unionization. And the reduction here has contributed on an even greater scale to the decline of the closed shop. State industries are traditional strongholds of union membership.

The TUC has been here before, of course, but not for a very long time. At the turn of the century, membership of unions was a bare 1,250,000. It grew

rapidly during the First World War to 4,500,000 and then steadily to 6,000,000 in 1920. The slump then drove membership down to a low of 3,300,000 in 1934. But after 1937, the annual tally of card-holders rose practically without exception for 43 years before reaching its peak.

Since then it has declined steadily and it would be a rash man who would predict when bottom will be touched this time. There are some bright spots on the TUC's horizon. The Bank Worker's union, BIFU, has gone into the organized City sector with slick publicity that has paid off - although new technology could reverse those gains. Unions like the National Graphical Association with a pre-entry closed shop and substantial friendly society benefits have kept their members, but at a cost of terrific financial strain.

Set against this picture are the new technology firms - the so-called "sunrise" industries - which have largely sprung up over the last five years when the public image of the Labour movement has been unsympathetic. They are proving impervious to the charms of the block vote and the branch meeting. One computer software company in the Home Counties of which I have personal knowledge was recently taken over by a rival. The employees were at a loss to know how to defend their interests, but suggestions that they "bring in the union" met with overwhelming opposition.

This experience was not derived solely from the admittedly widespread fear of unemployment from "upsetting the boss". In some new industries and services where there is no tradition of trade unionism, these are hard times in which to start one. The unions argue that few jobs are involved in the sunrise sector, and that it would make little difference if they could all be gathered into the family.

The trade union movement in Britain will probably always be strong in numbers, but we are probably witnessing the start of its long-term decline through a mixture of economic, political and social factors. The TUC desperately wants to be listened to, and that consuming passion is the underlying theme of next week's debates. And as its espousal of the numbers game for the distribution of seats on the ruling General Council has demonstrated, the TUC is putting its faith in the uncertain voice of size rather than the strategic value of industrial workers well-placed to exploit their power.

## TUC membership: the falling numbers

Union	1979	1982
Transport and General Workers	2,088,000	1,593,000
Engineering workers	1,219,000	1,001,000
General and Municipal	967,000	825,000
National Union of Public Employees (NUPE)	769,000	769,000
Scientific and Technical (ASTM)	491,000	470,000
Shopworkers (USDAW)	476,000	417,000
Electricians and Plumbers (EETPU)	420,000	390,000
Construction workers (UCATT)	248,000	201,000
Mineworkers (NUM)	288,000	245,000
Teachers (NUT)	248,000	222,000
Civil and Public Services Association	225,000	202,000
Postal workers (CUW)	225,000	198,000
White collar engineering (TASS)	207,000	172,000
Railwaymen (RMT)	199,000	180,000
Bank workers (BPU)	137,000	122,000
Refinery workers	130,000	115,000
Society of Civil and Public Servants	128,000	108,000
Iron and steel workers (ISCTC)	104,000	88,000
Seamen (NUS)	47,000	25,000

All figures in nearest thousands

# Zimbabwe: anxiety but no white exodus

Harare Zimbabwe's worsening human rights record is again under scrutiny after the re-detention of the six air force officers whose trial and acquittal on sabotage charges has become a cause célèbre. On this occasion, however, the implications for relations with the western democracies are more serious than ever with aid from the country's main donors apparently in jeopardy.

Over the next few days British and US diplomats in Harare will be making efforts to ascertain just what the Zimbabwe government's intentions are - whether it has been decided to hold the officers, four of whom hold dual British-Zimbabwean nationality - indefinitely, as provided for by the emergency powers, or whether they will be released.

The officers are said by lawyers to have taken their re-detention better than relatives and friends, who on Wednesday were moved from elation at their acquittal in the High Court to despair when they were served new detention orders. One lawyer said: "We were not expecting that they would be released immediately and neither were they. But we think there are distinctions between our case and other recent precedents which may persuade the authorities to free them."

Those who hold this opinion believe the government will be prepared to distinguish between the airman, provided they agree to leave the

country, and other detainees freed by the courts such as the former Zipsa treason trialists who, it is suggested, could provide a coalescing point for internal opposition if released.

There have been four previous cases in which one or more people have been brought before the courts on security-related charges, acquitted and then re-detained on the orders of Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the Minister of Home Affairs. Of these the six ex-Zipsa men, and two alleged South African spies, Philip Harberbury and Colin Evans, remain in custody.

In two other cases individuals have been released after Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, intervened. Relatives of the airman, lawyers and western diplomats are pinning their hopes that Mr Mugabe was not party to the new orders and will have them released. Last November in an essay designed to counter Zimbabwe's deteriorating image abroad, Edmond Zvobgo, the Minister for Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, said Mr Mugabe found detention without trial "barbaric" and would resort to it only "in the most compelling circumstances".

Nevertheless, there is ill-concealed outrage among whites generally and those close to the officers in particular, that having been falsely accused, tortured and held in custody for more than a year, they should now be incarcerated at all.

If they are not released most observers expect a rash of resignations in the Zimbabwe Air Force. The officers, especially the three most senior, are admired by colleagues and their treatment has already provoked a number of top-ranking men to resign. From an establishment strength of 340, the officer corps has fallen since independence to 175, still more than 90 per cent of them white. It is still easy for a serving officer to leave Zimbabwe's armed forces - on giving just three months' notice - and, which is not always realized, continue up to a third of pension outside the country. The system was designed before independence to encourage whites to stay on in the armed forces. It may now, as military sources point out, have the opposite effect of deciding them to go.

Most observers believe it is too early to say what effect the affair will have on the white community. At times of stress, talk in the comfortable suburbs invariably turns to emigration, but when these periods pass, most folk get back to living a life which they acknowledge still has great attractions.

The exodus of whites predicted at independence has never materialized and emigration figures show a steady trickle of between 1,000 and 1,800 (race is not specified in the figures but the vast majority are whites) leaving every month. The most recent figures, for April, show a slight decrease on the same date last year. Though the attractions for whites may be less than there may yet be a significant outflow, it seems unlikely that the re-detentions will precipitate it.

Clearly though, the government's stated attitude to the rule of law and the government had to be bound by legal technicalities. In an address to law students at the University of Zimbabwe in March he said: "Blind acceptance of the rule of law can only frustrate our efforts to radically purge our society of the injustices of the colonial past."

Dr Ushewokunze and Mr Mugabe have both said that the government will detain individuals who it has reason to believe constitute a threat to security. In an interview with the respected magazine *More* recently the minister went on "I do not believe I ought to jeopardize security in order to keep on the good side of the jurists in Geneva."

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Stephen Taylor

David Watt

# Britain, still a misfit in the modern world

According to the latest Gallup, West Germany is now regarded as Britain's best friend in Europe. An opinion poll published in last week's *Sunday Telegraph* finds that 27 per cent of the British public put Germany first, with France second at 9 per cent and Holland third, with 8 per cent. Fifteen years ago it seems, Germany rated only 12 per cent, though it was still in the top three. "Don't know's" on the other hand, have risen from about 30 per cent to a resounding 50 per cent.

The *Sunday Telegraph*, which is so ardent a supporter of the Reagan Administration and whose stable remained for many years after the war one of the last bastions of anti-German sentiment in Fleet Street, not surprisingly uses these figures as a peg on which to hang an editorial homily about being all very well to make friends of our enemies, but let's not make enemies of our friends (i.e. the Americans).

My own reaction is rather different. It is that the polls confirm that in general the British have straight-forward though rather narrow views on which side their international bread is buttered, but virtually no real feeling for or interest in anything abroad for its own sake.

They are perfectly correct in saying that West Germany is our "best friend" if by that is meant the European country that can most reliably be expected to take international positions that will positively advance British interests. The French can certainly never be expected consciously to advance anyone's interest except their own, and the trouble is that though French interests may march with ours at various times on various issues, there is no consistency about this. Holland, Italy, Norway and Switzerland are more likely to pursue policies more compatible with our own, but they lack on most subjects the power to alter the balance in our favour. Our relations with West Germany, by contrast, have weight and importance as well as some congruity to recommend them.

On substantial issues, the Germans do not, of course, always see eye to eye with us. Within the EEC for instance, the strength of the German farm lobby puts them on opposite sides of most arguments about the Common Agricultural Policy. Their position at the frontier between East and West gives them a very different perspective of Nato strategy from any other member nation's, including our own.

They are more unwilling to put their relations at risk and in order to avoid their territory being fought over if things go wrong they insist upon a militarily absurd "forward defence" combined with the assurance of an early American nuclear retaliation against the Soviet Union.

Mrs Thatcher would no doubt argue that the monetary conservatism of successive German governments and their obsessive fear of inflation puts them on the same (angelic) side of the economic argument as ourselves. Other British governments, more Keynesian, have at various times regarded the Germans as a drag on the international economic system. But what is not in doubt is German agreement with us on the big issues - the maintenance of an open world economy and the supreme importance of the American connexion.

It is this last aspect of the matter that chiefly distinguishes the Germans from the French. The Franco-German axis, forged in the 1960s by Adenauer and de Gaulle, was in some respects an

anti-British affair and constantly confounded the delusion of British governments, during that decade, that the Germans would come to our assistance and force the French to accept our membership of the Common Market.

Neither under Adenauer nor any of his successors have the Germans ever been likely to sacrifice the American alliance to their relations with France. It is this entirely justified perception which lies, no doubt, in an obscure and half-articulated form, at the root of the Gallup poll's main finding.

Whether all this amounts to "friendship" is quite another matter. Many writers and statesmen of the hard-boiled school have argued that the whole friendship metaphor, like all analogies between states and individuals, is dangerously misleading if not wholly inadmissible. If Burke was right in talking about the impossibility of drawing up the indictment of a whole nation, why should the designation of a whole country as a "friend" make any more sense?

The answer is that there is real meaning to the word, provided that not too much weight is put on it. We are capable, alas, of fighting anyone including our own (presumably friendly) countrymen if the issues are important enough. But a combination of long, settled peace, close cooperation and a natural sympathy do produce a genuine sense of relationship between countries and ensure, as in marriage, that allowances are made and faults forgiven that would otherwise cause disruption.

I doubt whether Germany quite qualifies under this heading if she can only muster 27 per cent of the British to pronounce the magic word "friend", and this is our own fault more than anyone else's. The Gallup poll contains some other startling figures besides the main ones. People now travel hugely and 34 per cent of the poll's respondents have been to Germany but only 19 per cent (virtually the same proportion as 15 years ago) could speak any foreign language well enough to be able to understand a newspaper, and of these only 6 per cent could understand German.

The study and admiration of German culture and literature which were widespread among educated people in this country in the latter half of the 19th century have never recovered from two world wars. We do not, in consequence, begin to understand the Germans. We tend to regard them as disciplined Prussian automata or neurotic angst-ridden romantics and either way (or both) we incline to believe they are dangerous.

Naturally there is a grain of truth in stereotypes, but their gross crudity distorts the popular judgment and makes the assessment of a dozen important calculations - from the tactical nuclear weapons debate to the significance of the Green movement or the prospects of the German economy - far more difficult. This is a pity in itself but also (if one wants to take a robust, pragmatic view) because in the end it means that even our own figuring of the national interest is superficial and likely to be mistaken.

A nation, half of whose citizens have no particular view about which foreign countries are friendly and which are not, and 20 per cent of whom, as Gallup also shows, would rather take their holidays (like Mrs Thatcher) in the undemanding environment of Switzerland than anywhere else abroad, is not necessarily best equipped for the modern world.

Philip Howard

# Verses to delight the Laureate

Daily newspapers have a problem with poetry. Melpomene, the Muse of Poetry, does not really get on with Epheueris, the patron Muse of News. The activities of Robert, the television superstar. Even if we try to publish verse, we have trouble indenting the lines correctly, and a mistake matters more than it does in a report, say, of the contest for the Labour Party leadership.

Prose is words in their best order; poetry is the best words in their best order; journalism is policy words written in a hurry in any old order. Thomas Barnes, the first great editor of *The Times*, used a militant and at times intemperate vehemence new even to a generation accustomed to strong language. It was not poetry, but it was great journalism.

The prudent answer for a newspaper invited to publish poetry is "no". This does not stop all the amateur poets and versifiers in the country submitting their work to *The Times* with a view to publication. And truly awful much of it is. The worst tends to be written about members of the Royal Family by Americans. You are asking for trouble if you publish unsolicited verse in a newspaper. So here goes:

In a little Wadi  
Where the khisles blow,  
There's a donkey's body  
Lying down below.  
All the month of June, dear  
Maturing in the heat,  
Very very soon, dear,  
'Twill be fit to eat.

Nasty, but striking, would you not say, Melpomene? Strange and sulphurous. It comes from a collection of verse written 40 years ago by a man who has been dead for a dozen years. It is now being privately published in a limited edition. Axiom 64 for the prudent literary editor: do not publish unsolicited verse; it only produces more of the same. Axiom 65: do not review privately printed third editions; there are enough publicly published books to keep you busy.

I break both axioms because you cannot make a column without occasionally breaking axioms; because

I think the verses are clever, and because they come from a reputable source, the most reputable available after Melpomene herself. Sir John Bejerman sent them to me. He is publishing the slim collected verses of his Oxford friend, Michael Dugdale, under the title *An Omelette of Vultures Eggs* (sic, with no apostrophe), has written a foreword, and is signing the hundred copies.

Most of the poems were written in Palestine during the last war, while Michael Dugdale was serving there with the Royal Engineers. The combination of war and the Holy Land inspired Dugdale to verse that is black, sometimes macabre, always witty and clever. Death and holiness, violence and carion, sergeant-major. The Poet Laureate says: "I commend these poems as exquisitely polished examples of prosody, especially when read aloud. In my mind's eye I see Dugdale holding up his hand for attention and in my ear I hear the decisive tones in which they were composed."

He remembers Dugdale as tall, thin, and angular, and wearing spectacles. "He spoke in a harsh, clipped voice, and was very much a gentleman, with exquisite manners. He was witty, informed, and with a gift of expression that made him an exceptionally brilliant talker."

In the short eye of journalism poetry matters less than car sales and Hattersley, Kinnock and Robert Bat. In the long eye of literature poetry is the most important stuff written, and it is a pleasure to have recovered these poems from oblivion. So just for today, tip Melpomene, down Epheueris. But let us not take it as a precedent. Do not send your unpublished verses. Don't ring us, we'll ring you.

*Vulture, Vulture, burning bright  
In the Brothels of the Night  
What dead hand or what dead*

Thigh

Can soothe your sensuality?  
An Omelette of Vultures Eggs is distributed by Read Judd of 48 Charing Cross Road, London.

دعا لسان





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## ABUSE OF LAW IN HARARE

The acquittal of six air force officers by a Harare court on Tuesday showed that the independence and fearlessness of the Zimbabwe judiciary most admirably survives; their immediate detention was a disgraceful demonstration of the contempt for human rights and legality that the government of Mr Robert Mugabe is increasingly showing.

There are rare occasions when an executive might be justified in continuing to detain acquitted men: at times of severe civil emergency, for instance, and if there is a real and evident danger that the detainees might instigate disorder if they were at liberty. This is emphatically not the position in the present case. The air force officers are being detained not as a reasonable precaution, but in punishment for crimes of which they have been acquitted. Mr Mugabe's government substitutes its writ for the courts and is scornful of "legal technicalities". Thus the protection all Zimbabwean citizens deserve from arbitrary arrest and imprisonment without due process disappears; liberty depends on the whim of an individual.

The acquittal presented Mr Mugabe with three opportunities. He could have shown his support for an independent judiciary; the judge was an African who had played a leading part in the independence struggle. Secondly, he could have expressed abhorrence at the torture of suspects by the police, the reality of which was accepted by the judge. Thirdly, he could have made

some conciliatory gesture towards the white population. He did none of these things.

Mr Mugabe brought Zimbabwe to independence in 1979 amid great good will. He made reassuring speeches about pragmatism (in spite of his Marxism), reconciliation and working with all sections of the population — he included whites and followers of Mr Joshua Nkomo in his cabinet — and respect for the law. There has since been a falling off, and a formidable indictment can now be mounted against his government.

As well as the torture of suspects and detention without trial (nine other acquitted men have been re-detained in addition to the air force officers, including six supporters of Mr Nkomo — another opportunity for reconciliation lost), there must be added the atrocities committed by Mr Mugabe's Shona-speaking Fifth Brigade in its action against opponents of the government in Matabeleland early this year. Mr Mugabe promised an inquiry into this, but no report has emerged and no one has been punished. He has also moved against the press, expelling a foreign correspondent and forbidding his own self-censoring press from publishing material relating to terrorism or anti-insurgency operations by his army.

Mr Mugabe is, of course, beset by difficulties. The existence of an unabashedly prejudiced regime in South Africa is a provocation; and there is no doubt that South Africa has encouraged active sabotage in Zimbabwe. Failure of the charges

against the air force officers should not be allowed to conceal the fact that a large part of Mr Mugabe's air force was destroyed in a daring subversive operation. Also Mr Ian Smith's regime, set an example of illegality — in its inception, for one thing — and of detention and torture. The Fifth Brigade followed the traditions of the Selous Scouts.

There are reasons for Mr Mugabe's intemperance, but not excuses. It is also true that, although he is himself a strong leader, he must react to the pressure exerted by more extreme members of his party. But there will be an inevitable price to pay unless this latest wrong is righted and the men released. The flight of whites from Zimbabwe would be accelerated, to the economic detriment of the country. There would also be a drying-up of aid from overseas. It may be a failure of sympathy, though a natural one, on the part of the British to react more strongly to the re-detention of white air force officers than they did to the re-detention of Nkomo followers, but the condemnation applies to all such cases. The British government will meet strong opposition at home to continuing military and development aid to Zimbabwe unless the detention is countermanded.

Mr Mugabe has intentions to move eventually towards a one-party state. Hopes that this might be accomplished with due regard for human rights and the right to dissent are fading. Zimbabwe looks like becoming an increasingly harsh and isolated place.

## TRAINING IS THE THING

September 1 was a bench mark in British social policy. It was vesting day for the Youth Training Scheme, an ambitious measure which falls only a little way short of the conscription of an entire age cohort. Comparable in its scope to raising the school-leaving age, the scheme guarantees for each 16-year-old not already in full-time work or education a place on a state-sponsored programme of training and work experience. At the least this is the latest and biggest attempt by Mrs Thatcher's Government to rescue a generation of British youth from aimless unemployment. At best here are the beginnings of a long-term effort to raise the quality and skills of the labour force to the levels of our trading competitors.

The scale of the scheme is striking. The Manpower Services Commission aims for 460,000 places by Christmas, involving at least 5,000 employers and costing £1 billion a year. In the past big initiatives in social policy have often disappointed; there is some understandable scepticism about the effect of a plan on this scale. Certainly there will be in some parts of the country (what even friends of the scheme concede to be) a shambles. Doubt remains about the take-up of places by the end of July only 46,000 young people had signed on, but now with the end of the holidays momentum will surely gather. Employers public and private have made impressive efforts in organizing placements. However, certain trade unions continue to show a callous lack of responsibility in their refusal to cooperate in providing opportunities for young people in work at a manageable cost to the public funds.

Judgment on the YTS must of course be deferred: the scheme has not deserved the early drizzle of carping it has had — negative

complaint of the sort that often greets any plan of social reform that is patently less than perfect. By September next it will be possible to reach a conclusion. One stark — but reasonable — test will be the number of young people who at the end of their training and work experience remain unemployed. We must be realistic: if that figure is more than one third then YTS will have disappointed. But it will not have failed if at the end of their training the young people have acquired the wherewithal to make their way in the harsh climate of the 1980s. The scheme will not necessarily lead to jobs; it ought to stimulate some trainees to return to college or continue vocational training. The Manpower Services Commission has before it a hefty task of inspection, ensuring that employers (especially small businesses) do train and not abuse the scheme as a source of cheap hands.

Mr Norman Tebbit has decided that reluctant trainees may have to be goaded. Just like the unemployed who refuse "reasonable" job offers, the trainees face a partial loss of social security benefits if they persist in rejecting placements. Trainees are to be paid £25 a week, substantially above the basic benefit payable to an unemployed 16-year-old living with his parents; recalcitrants will lose 40 per cent of their benefit for a salary six weeks. But YTS trainees are not yet Mr Tebbit's equivalent of the Bevin Boys — young men conscripted during the Second World War for work in the mines on the orders of Mr Ernest Bevin, the Minister of Labour. The penalty element is fair only as long as designated careers officers ensure a range of choice among placements.

The crude political impulse behind this major act of collective provision costing such a large sum of public money is

maintaining social peace — YTS is an anti-riot device keeping 16-year-olds off the unemployment record and off the streets. The short term expedient must also be used as a vehicle for a longer-term policy: equipping the work force of the 1980s and 1990s with the new array of skills required by an economy open to sharp competition from far east, far west and the Continent. A gap has long been apparent. Britain imports too few of its young people skills of any kind let alone new skills; we retrain too few of our adults compared with the Germans and Japanese. YTS could be a step on the path back to sustained competitiveness.

Time is short. Economic recovery — even partial — will expose shortages of skilled workers in the new engineering and electronics sectors and elsewhere. YTS should lead into a larger plan for training which begins before the age of 16 in the secondary schools and continues not only to 18 but throughout employment: in such a plan the distinction between school and further education college, between education and vocational training are deliberately blurred.

Such an expanded YTS need not cost some extra infusion of public money: large sums are currently expended under regional and inner-city rubrics which, properly focused on work people and their trainers, could produce a better result for both individual and society. Such a plan requires untrammelled thought about the future of employment married with administrative competence in managing "skillcentres" and the like. Some ministers are uncomfortable with the Manpower Services Commission, bothered by its capacity for independent thought. But the commission is the only agency they have and it should be encouraged rather than sat upon.

## Lost for words

From Miss Margaret Laski  
Sir, In his letter to you of August 19, Mr Denis Mahon quotes the Conservative manifesto (but it could have been any other recent public statement of noble aims) on the wish to encourage support "for the arts and the heritage".

Since we all of us inherited more or less the same language, I doubt I am alone in finding "heritage" a word, redundant of Gifts Shoppers selling Bibles bound in plastic ivory and Shakespeares in plastic morocco, with crinoline-lady lavender bags and witch-balls in macramé slinger, or, as I have just come across in a Texas-set thriller, of motels in tourist centres regaling tour parties with Heritage Buffets, which are evenings of Euro-ethnic food with old-country fancy dress optional.

Surely this is not the word we want for naming all that the once-creative dead of our nation have most valuably left for us, and which we want to learn how to appreciate and safeguard. But what — decent, dignified, neutral — is the right word? Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET LASKI,  
Les Forges de Montgaillard,  
11330,  
France.  
August 24.

## A black moment in Zimbabwe

From Mr Humphrey Berkeley

Sir, I have been in favour of black majority rule in Rhodesia ever since I first visited that country and met both Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo, in 1958.

I was prohibited from entering Rhodesia by Mr Ian Smith after his illegal declaration of independence in November, 1965. I first re-visited Zimbabwe when Mr Mugabe, as Prime Minister, lifted the prohibition order in April, 1980. I held no brief for Mr Smith in 1965 and I hold no brief for him now.

The Zimbabwe which I wished to see was a democratic country with no racial or tribal discrimination and no arbitrary actions on the part of the state contrary to the concept of natural justice.

I find it appalling that six white air force officers should have been tortured in prison in Zimbabwe and then found innocent by a black Zimbabwean judge, whom I have known for many years, and then released.

Mr Mugabe and his Cabinet have a clear duty to govern Zimbabwe without tribal or ethnic prejudice.

I am sure that there are in this country many people, like myself, who greatly deplore recent events in Zimbabwe and who hope that our belief that Zimbabwe could become the kind of country which I have described above was not a vain one. Yours faithfully,  
HUMPHREY BERKELEY,  
Three Pages Yard, Chiswick, W4,  
September 1.

## Defence review

From Mr Stevenson Pugh

Sir, Three times in the past two weeks you have aired questions fundamental to our defence policy which should have encouraged many other readers, beside myself, to hope the current defence review may initiate a genuine, radical rethink.

It is essential to start by grasping the paradox that a conventional attack of the kind your contributors described would be more totally genocidal for the victim than a nuclear attack and would offer an enemy the bonus of being able to occupy the ground thereafter. We have seen many times now that a conventional attack which cannot be defended by conventional means tends to isolate the victim. So we have a clear example where threat of nuclear response would be the only defence and where that could only be convincing if the victim himself possessed that capability.

The first point is, therefore, that we must keep up an independently targeted and controlled nuclear force, preferably based offshore. Let's make no pretence about it having any strategic significance in the nuclear context; it's simply the sting in our tail. That should come cheaper and, incidentally, not be a factor at Geneva.

The second point, the re-think on the Rhine hopefully opening a new look towards the open sea (in three

## Trade sanctions as a bar to learning

From Mr John Gillard Watson

Sir, Notification was recently received here that the *Bulletin of the International Statistical Institute*, vol. 49, "Proceedings of the 43rd Session of the Institute", held at Buenos Aires in December, 1981, had been seized by the Customs. This was on the grounds that importation was forbidden, but an application could be made for an import licence.

The application was duly made to the Department of Trade and Industry, but was refused by the International Trade Policy Division. The reason given was that the ban on Argentine imports imposed on April 7, 1982, would remain "until such time as we can bring Argentina to restore normal trade relations with the United Kingdom." It was argued that "any shift in our position would send entirely the wrong signals to the Argentines and hinder our efforts to achieve a mutual lifting of sanctions."

Since then notification has also been received that five volumes of *Comercio Exterior Argentina 1979*, published by the Instituto de Estadística y Censos, have been seized similarly. Both sets of items are liable for forfeiture and legal proceedings will be taken for the condemnation of the goods as forfeited if we venture to make a claim that they are not liable to forfeiture — a claim which, it is evident, will fall in view of the above-quoted letter.

I do not question the object of the Government in maintaining trade

sanctions, but is it not obvious that so far as the items cited are concerned it is this country, and not Argentina, which is damaged?

It cannot be maintained that to forbid scholars access to the proceedings of the ISI session of two years ago and to forbid not only scholars but business firms access to the trade returns of four years ago can in any way promote our interests; nor could an intelligent interpretation of the embargo, allowing the import of material of benefit to this country, be in any way a source of aid and comfort to the enemy. Both items are sent free of charge.

If this absurd situation is not put right without delay by the Government, there is evidently every intention that the whole of the learned and business material in what is presumably a shipload, at present held in a Dover warehouse, will be forfeited and, in plain English, destroyed. Where then will the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade and Industry get the most recent figures on Argentine commerce? Will the inquiring businessman, and the scholar be told to fly to Switzerland to look things up?

Yours etc,  
JOHN GILLARD WATSON,  
Librarian  
Institute of Economics and  
Statistics,  
St Cross Building,  
Manor Road,  
Oxford,  
August 27.

## Miracles take longer

From Mr Kenneth Gilbert

Sir, Professor Michael Beenstock (*Economic notebook*, August 11) provides a complex argument to show that there is no miracle in the improvement in productivity in the UK. Those of us in business do not expect miracles but we do see that productivity gains are real and are not the result of some abstract mathematical relationship.

They are obtained, for example, by eliminating unnecessary work, by careful investment in more efficient machinery and by ensuring that employees work when they are at work: in simple terms, by better management and a growing awareness at all levels that we have to earn a living. There is also a determination to hold on to these productivity gains when we have economic recovery.

We have just had another case of workers sleeping on the night shift. If this practice ceases does not productivity improve irrespective of any other factor? The man on the Clapham omnibus would think so, but then he is unlikely to be a professor of finance and investment.

Yours faithfully,  
K. GILBERT,  
26 Gallows Hill,  
Kings Langley,  
Hertfordshire,  
August 18.

## Illegal indemnity?

From Dr Timothy J. Rimmer

Sir, Together with other doctors and members of other professional bodies I have recently been offered an insurance policy which covers any inconvenience resulting from the loss of my driving licence for any reason — including drinking and driving offences.

A policy covering loss of licence for health reasons would be fair enough, but the withdrawal of a licence for bad driving is supposed to be a punishment and, therefore, a deterrent.

A holder of one of the above policies is impermissibly declaring that he may well drive under the influence of alcohol (and perhaps kill someone) but will no longer suffer any inconvenience in the event of being caught. This would leave precious little to deter him or her from committing this crime which is the cause of so many deaths on our roads. I therefore suggest that such policies are morally unacceptable and should be illegal.

Otherwise, why not offer, for example, policies to the "law-abiding citizen" to cover financial inconveniences in the event of being caught either not declaring all his income on the tax form or making a dishonest insurance claim?

Yours faithfully,  
TIMOTHY J. RIMMER,  
8 St Catherine's Court,  
Clarence Road,  
Windsor,  
Berkshire,  
August 11.

## Riches of the land

From Miss A. M. Burrell and Dr Berkeley Hill

Sir, In his letter defending the record of British agriculture (August 9) the Deputy President of the National Farmers' Union quotes an average annual rise in retail food prices of only 9.5 per cent for the period 1977-82, a fall in real terms. But choose a less unusual year, free from the aftermath of a major drought, as base year, and the picture changes.

Over the years 1970-82 retail food prices increased at an average annual rate of 13.6 per cent, marginally faster than the rate of general inflation. Considering the significant yield increases over this same period, due in part to publicly-funded research and advisory work and to land mechanisation improvements stimulated by grants and tax incentives to farmers, it seems a pity that consumers have not benefited from at least a modest fall in real food prices.

Too great a concern with statistical detail, however, only diverts attention from the fundamentals

behind agricultural support. From a broader perspective, it is clear that Community agriculture is too large and produces too much food at the price levels set under the CAP and that these prices cause consumers to pay more than they would in an unsupported market.

One indicator that EEC agriculture is too large is that the resource cost (excluding environmental and amenity costs) of surplus food production is greater than its economic value on world markets. Opportunities to solve this surplus problem in the most obvious way, by lowering support prices, are blocked because of the assumption that, without such support, farmers' incomes would be unacceptably low.

While in certain Continental countries there may be grounds for this view, in the United Kingdom it is more difficult to demonstrate that widespread poverty among farmers would result (although the Low Pay Unit has shown that it is currently a reality for some farm workers).

On the other hand, from a wealth standpoint, farmers who own land are at the moment among the best-

off members of society. And it is generally accepted that support for product prices has played a large part in bringing this about through raising land prices; in the longer term capital appreciation must be counted as one of the returns to farming.

To change the support system so that those farmers in genuine need become its main beneficiaries would be unacceptable to powerful interest groups in British agriculture. If done quickly, lowering product prices would involve considerable adjustment costs, including a fall in land prices. And even then, contrary to the facile assumptions of some environmentalist critics (feature, August 2) of high-cost farming, it is by no means obvious that the appearance of the countryside would be enhanced as a result.

Yours faithfully,  
A. M. BURRELL,  
BERKELEY HILL,  
School of Rural Economics,  
Wye College (University of  
London),  
Kent,  
August 18.

## Spending in the public eye

From Mr David J. Critchley

Sir, You report (August 24) that the Treasury paper on the financing of public spending has been "prepared under conditions of extreme confidentiality". Even the spending departments have been kept at arm's length. Does it contain something that you and I should not know?

Enough! Publish the report forthwith. Nail copies to church doors and town halls. Give them away in post offices. Then at least we will be able to come to a considered judgment on the matter.

But what are we promised? "A limited exercise in guided public debate." What boundless contempt for our ability to make up our own minds!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.  
DAVID J. CRITCHLEY,  
Ch. du Connétable 7,  
Coligny,  
1223 Genève,  
Switzerland,  
August 25.

## Body and mind

From Dr R. Littlewood

Sir, As both an anthropologist and a psychiatrist, I have been observing with some interest your focus on "holistic" medicine, a concept of therapy which aims to heal the whole individual in his psychological and social context, as opposed to the conventional fragmentation of the western patient into his constituent functions and dysfunctions.

This aim seems to be associated with the rather vacuous and uninformative assumption that non-western treatments such as traditional Chinese medicine always heal "body, mind and spirit" (August 18). Surely all the healing systems, biomedical or traditional, are holistic in that any specific technique only derives its meaning within the context of certain assumptions about man's nature and human society.

Traditional medical interventions in the non-industrial world are frequently purely physical and often startlingly arbitrary and brief. Chinese medicine may treat disharmony between parents and children by simple moxibustion — burning paper scrolls on the body of the putative patient; no support or interpretations on the part of the healer and complete passivity on the part of the client.

Thanks to the attitude of our medical mandarins, alternative medicine is essentially private medicine and its merits are identical with the supposed advantages of private treatment — an intimate and empathic consultation conducted in a leisurely and congenial atmosphere. Curiously, the sudden awareness of the "alternative" approach coincides with the systematic dismantling of our health services.

The discovery that the cause of civil violence is apparently refined sugar (August 5) also coincides with our refusal to allocate resources to the penal system. Both instances are characterized by a feeling that we are estranged from some hypothetical state of nature by artificial attempts to control our own destinies.

Perhaps it would not be too fanciful to suggest that current interest in the "holistic" approach is merely the reflection which monetarism casts on medicine?

Yours etc,  
ROLAND LITTLEWOOD,  
Department of Psychiatry,  
Guy's Hospital,  
St Thomas Street, SE1,  
August 19.

## Private line

From Mr James Pretty

Sir, Your leading article on national monopolies (August 22) mentions private quality of service and profitability as functions of a regulatory authority. Quality of service can include many things, but one aspect, availability, surely needs special mention. Are people in small isolated communities, who may already have lost their village shop (and with it the post office) and bus service to lose their telephone kiosk also, because it is unprofitable?

Alternatively, the regulatory authority will need power to insist in detail on the maintenance of several thousand of these amenities. More likely, perhaps, the Government will pass the buck and require local authorities to subsidise private Telecom whenever it claims that a local service is unprofitable, and then of course some other amenity will cut.

If a public service industry is nationalised, whatever the disadvantages, it can pursue its proper objective of providing a public service, which under private ownership must remain secondary to the amassing of profits.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES PRETTY,  
24 Merton Road,  
Watton,  
Norfolk,  
August 22.

## Breakfast fare

From Mr William Grandy

Sir, Unlike Mr N. A. Oppenheim (August 31) I found your reference to Sir William Wallace being hanged, beheaded, disembowelled and quartered most appropriate.

I was eating a kipper for breakfast. Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM GRANDY,  
16 Settrington Road, SW6,  
August 31.

From Mr Callum Beaton  
Sir, Mr N. A. Oppenheim's letter spoiled my lunch! Yours faithfully,  
CALLUM BEATON,  
Wood Edge,  
42 Cronks Hill Road,  
Meadvale, Reigate,  
Surrey,  
August 31.

## Brideshead Catholicism

From the Reverend Dr Gerard McKay

Sir, Clifford Longley's article yesterday (August 22), with its suggestion of a secretive and obscurantist minority hijacking the Church's legislative processes in order to impose its will furiously on the enlightened majority, may make exciting journalism but it does not correspond with the facts of the case.

When raising the question of the obligation of abstinence from meat on penitential days in the new code of canon law, Mr Longley uses this to complain about the lack of consultation in the preparation of the code. If he had read *Communiones*, the official commentary of the commission for the revision of the code, he would have found the original discussion of the matter that took place in 1979. A text was agreed on in early 1980 and this substantially is what is in the new code. Nothing was sneaked in at the last moment when the rest of us weren't looking.

Mr Longley, admittedly along with many others, also misinterprets the significance of the canons on abstinence. He seems to think their principal purpose is to take us back to an illiberal and illogical practice: eating fish is no sacrifice, he tells us; in fact, the consultants constructed

the canons to remind us abstinence is a necessary part of Christian asceticism; it was traditionally expressed by not eating meat and, recognising that tradition has to adapt according to one's culture and circumstances, bishops therefore had to have the power to make whatever commutations were locally necessary.

The Church's rules on abstinence are actually exactly those under which we have been living since Paul VI promulgated his *Motu proprio*, *Poenitentini*, on February 17, 1966. The 1983 code has, in effect, codified this legislation. According to canon 6.2 of the new code this means the present local disposition will remain in force, unless specifically withdrawn, because the new code revokes only legislation, universal or particular, that is contrary to its prescriptions.

The bishops, therefore, are free to let the present situation continue if they wish; equally, they are free to introduce new regulations if they feel circumstances have changed from the time of the promulgation of *Poenitentini*. Yours faithfully,  
GERARD MCKAY,  
Roman Catholic Scottish National Tribunal,  
22 Woodrow Road,  
Glasgow,  
August 23.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BALMORAL CASTLE**  
August 31: Mrs John Dugdale has succeeded Lady Abel Smith as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

The Queen will open St Bartholomew's Church Centre and the Interpretative Centre, Passmore Edwards Museum at East Ham on December 14.  
The Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception for the board of American Express and American Express International Banking Corporation at St James's Palace on November 29.  
The Prince of Wales, President of the Council for National Aids, will attend an awards ceremony in Edinburgh on November 23.

### Forthcoming marriages

**Mr R. Becham**  
and Miss P. A. Hammonson  
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr and Mrs Simon Becham, and Patricia Ann, daughter of Mrs Sue Hammonson and the late Lewis W. Hammonson.

**Mr D. A. Bovey**  
and Miss J. H. Powell  
The engagement is announced between Alan, son of Mr and Mrs D. E. Bovey, and Jennifer Helen, daughter of Mr J. E. Powell, MP, and Mrs Powell.

**Mr M. G. Bromley-Martin**  
and Miss A. F. Birley  
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Captain and Mrs David Bromley-Martin, of Becham Hoe, Sussex, and Anne, daughter of Major Peter Birley, of Hyde Creek, Devonshire, and of the late Mrs M. A. Birley.

**Mr E. A. Everall**  
and Miss A. H. Watson  
The engagement is announced between Brian, younger son of Wing Commander and Mrs Stuart Everall, of Longcross, Fife, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Watson, of Drovers, Mayfield, Sussex.

**Mr G. R. F. Kynaston**  
and Miss S. S. M. Binney  
The engagement is announced between Roger, younger son of Mr C. R. Kynaston, of Croft, Durham, and Catharine, daughter of Commander and Mrs T. V. G. Binney, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

**Mr H. G. Lee-Warner**  
and Miss A. C. de Rivaz  
The engagement is announced between Harry Granville, only son of Mr and Mrs Robert Lee-Warner, of Lynes Barn, Winchester, Gloucestershire, and Anne Chavallier, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth de Rivaz, of Ash Cottage, Icomb, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire.

**Mr L. N. MacIntyre**  
and Miss C. E. Medhurst  
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Brigadier and Mrs A. D. MacIntyre, of Sevenoaks, and Carol, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Modhurst, of Oxford, Kent.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment and The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) will visit Headquarters The Prince of Wales's Division at Lichfield on November 25.  
Princess Anne will attend a reception to launch the Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal at St James's Palace on December 8.

The Prince of Wales will visit the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Committee project in Mid Glamorgan, on November 21.

The Prince of Wales, president, International Council of United World Colleges, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will visit Atlantic College at St Donat's on November 21.

Princess Alexandra will visit the London Docklands to open the Enterprise Zone roads and the new Asda superstore on the Isle of Dogs and at Beckton on September 22.

**Mr A. C. Mearhead**  
and Dr K. S. M. Bryden  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs G. F. Mearhead, of Larchwood, Wilton Lane, Jordans, Buckinghamshire, and Kirsty, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Bryden, of Beith, Ayrshire.

**Mr A. R. Paves**  
and Miss C. D. Lang  
The engagement is announced between Anthony, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Anstey Paves, of Whitby, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Lang, of Plymouth, Devon.

**Mr S. Sterling**  
and Miss E. N. George  
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Leo Sterling, of Hampstead Garden Suburb, and Edwina, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony George, of St John's Park, Ayr.

**Mr P. A. R. Wetherill**  
and Miss B. J. Pritchard-Barrett  
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mr Ian Wetherill, of Java, Spain, and Mrs Jane Wetherill, of 9 Queen's Elm Square, London SW3, and Belinda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Pritchard-Barrett, of Rookery Farm, Kelsale, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

**Mr A. K. V. White**  
and Miss F. E. Allen  
The engagement is announced between Keith, only son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs K. G. White, of SHAPE, Belgium, and Fiona Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Colonel and Mrs J. Allen of Chir, Surrey.

**Mr S. E. Wood**  
and Miss C. M. Walton  
The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs Walter S. Wood, of Felton, Northumbria, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs George E. T. Walton, of York.

**Mr S. E. Wood**  
and Miss C. M. Walton  
The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs Walter S. Wood, of Felton, Northumbria, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs George E. T. Walton, of York.

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The engagement is announced between Harry Granville, only son of Mr and Mrs Robert Lee-Warner, of Lynes Barn, Winchester, Gloucestershire, and Anne Chavallier, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth de Rivaz, of Ash Cottage, Icomb, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire.

**Mr L. N. MacIntyre**  
and Miss C. E. Medhurst  
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Brigadier and Mrs A. D. MacIntyre, of Sevenoaks, and Carol, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Modhurst, of Oxford, Kent.

### Luncheons

**HM Government**  
Mr Ray Whitney, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at Admiralty House in honour of the High Commissioner for Barbados.

**Banquets**  
The Master, Mr R. J. Lickorish, presided at a Court luncheon of the Butchers' Company held yesterday at Ironmongers' Hall. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr Jack G. Blandford and the reply was given by Mr Kenneth Wolstenholme.

**Service dinner**  
Royal Regiment of Fusiliers  
The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers gave a luncheon yesterday at the Tower of London for fusiliers who fought in the First World War. The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment (City of London), Major-General R. C. Webster, presided.

### Birthdays today

Sir Peter Boon, 67; Mrs Heather Briggstocke, 54; Mr Jimmy Connors, 31; Professor David Dalrymple, 71; Sir Arthur Drew, 71; Lord George-Brown, 69; Sir Edward Gosschen, 70; Mr Michael Hastings, 45; Mr Marshall Sir Paul Holder, 72; Mr P. B. Lucas, 68; Lord Page of Northampton, 70; Professor Sir Desmond Poul, 64; Sir Alexander Ramsay, 76; Viscount Simon, 81; Mr Victor Spink, 50; Professor George Temple, 82; Right Rev David Young, 52.

### Lomond School, Helensburgh

Term starts on Tuesday, September 6. R. Scott is school captain and captain of rugby. Mr Peter McHugh succeeds Miss E. A. Kinneir as head of school.

### Spectacle Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Spectacle Makers' Company for the ensuing year, to take office on October 5: Master: Mr Michael Rawlings; Upper Warden: Sir Richard Meyers; Lower Warden: Professor Herbert Dartnall.

### Latest wills

Mr Claude McGeorge Frost, of Bromley, Kent, left estate valued at £209,575 net. After a personal bequest of £1,000 he left the residue to charity. Help the Aged.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):  
Mrs Dr Thomas Eamon of Portliff, Killesno, Co. Cavan, estate in Ireland, £222,394.  
Mrs Susan, of Worthing, West Sussex, £236,942.  
Mrs Patricia Maitland, of Llanfair, Gwynedd, Irestate, £230,366.  
Miss Robert Herbert, of Wells, Somerset, £256,667.

### Prince's relapse

Bad Driburg, West Germany (AFP) — Prince Claus of The Netherlands, the husband of Queen Beatrix, has suffered a serious relapse of nervous depression and is undergoing treatment in a clinic at Bad Driburg, Westphalia, it was reported yesterday.



Miss Teresa Needham who, at the age of 18, narrowly failed to become a chess grand master in the Seventh Masters International in London yesterday. She was playing the Danish international master Gert Iskov (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

## Stubble burning is sensible operation, Jopling says

From John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, played host to the media on his farm at Thirk, North Yorkshire, yesterday.

This year he has harvested about 250 acres of wheat and barley and so can claim first-hand knowledge of the problem of stubble-burning. Mr Jopling said that burning was a matter for good sense, not legislation.

The farm is equipped to collect and stack 100 bales at a time, and it uses or sells as much as possible. "We use a tremendous amount, more, I would think, than most people, but even so we have a disposal problem and we have to burn some this year," he said.

"I think there is a lot of confusion between straw and stubble burning. Stubble burning is a sensible operation."

Mr Jopling said that this year was the first time he could remember finishing harvesting before the end of August. But rain was needed badly if the sugar beet was to have any chance of providing a decent crop, and he was not optimistic about potatoes because planting had been so delayed by the wet spring.

Mr Jopling said that it was very much a working farm rather than a country estate. In recent years it had been managed largely by a neighbour, Mr John Dearlove, but from now on his son, Nicholas, who graduated from Newcastle University, will gradually take over control.

Besides grain, sugar beet, potatoes, and peas, the farm has a small suckler herd and a beef fattening unit. The potatoes are contracted for sale to United Biscuits in Billingham for the manufacture of crisps.

Mr Jopling and his wife, Gail, commute every weekend when Parliament is sitting between London, and the farm, and his constituency, Westmorland and Lonsdale.

Having studied agriculture at Newcastle, then part of Durham University, Mr Jopling would like to play a more active part on the farm, but the past 12 years on the Conservative front bench have made that almost impossible.

"Yes, I do wish I had the time to be a full-time farmer. But I am totally committed to politics — make no mistake about that."

Mr Jopling denied that he had always wanted to be Minister of Agriculture. "Quite honestly I have discovered in politics that he who sets his mind on something is nearly always disappointed. When I entered politics, I never even thought that one day I would be a member of a government."

## Move to bring uplands under new controls

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Radical proposals to protect the character of the English and Welsh uplands are to be put to the Government later this year by the Countryside Commission.

Coming from an influential Government-funded quango, they are certain to infuriate farmers and landowners. Some of the proposals may well be opposed by planning authorities as unworkable.

The proposals, as disclosed to *Farmers Weekly*, include powers for planning authorities to prevent the building and acquisition of second homes. All farm buildings and roads would be subject to planning control, as would new forestry plantings of more than 50 acres.

No further grants would be made for draining or ploughing moorland, but new grants would be introduced for conservation projects. There would be a public right of access to all common land, and to discourage over-grazing, limits would be placed on the number of cattle and sheep that qualify for the EEC subsidies known as hill livestock compensatory allowances.

Uplands are defined as all areas above 800ft — about 15 per cent of the land area of England and Wales. The proposals will be seen as a tacit admission that hill-farming is desirable only for social reasons and is not economically justifiable.

The gulf that separates conservationists from farmers and landowners is illustrated by a recent statement from the North Yorkshire Branch of the Country Landowners' Association, which calls for fences to be allowed along main roads across the Yorkshire Moors.

The association says that so many sheep are being killed by traffic that farmers may be forced to remove their flocks from the moors. It rebuts the North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority's fear that fencing would lead to more grazing and a consequent change in the character of the moorland by pointing out that there are statutory powers to control the number of sheep.

At present large tracts of moor are undergrazed because of the increasing number of sheep killed, it says. "The absence of fencing will result in the most dramatic of all agricultural change, namely the removal of sheep from the moor."

Mr Jopling said that it was very much a working farm rather than a country estate. In recent years it had been managed largely by a neighbour, Mr John Dearlove, but from now on his son, Nicholas, who graduated from Newcastle University, will gradually take over control.

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## OBITUARY

### DR HARRY COLLIER

Research on the physiological effects of drugs

Dr Harry Collier, who died on August 29 at the age of 71, was an industrial pharmacologist of a kind that was until recently quite rare: he believed passionately that the development of new and beneficial drugs must hang on an understanding of how drugs function physiologically. Thus, both in his research appointments at four successive drug companies since the war and through his work with the Society for Drug Research, he was a persistent (and sometimes stubborn) proselytizer of the spirit of the Cambridge school of pharmacology, in which he learned his trade in the 1930s.

In particular his later work on drug dependence was of considerable popular interest, dealing as it did with the scientific bases of questions which were becoming of increasing social importance.

Henry Oswald Jackson Collier was born on March 14, 1912 and educated at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester, from where he went to Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Here he graduated BA with First Class Honours in the Natural Sciences Tripos in 1933 and went on to do research in the Department of Zoology, being awarded his PhD in 1938.

From 1937 to 1941 he was an assistant lecturer and demonstrator in Comparative Physiology at the University of Manchester and in 1941 he joined Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals) Ltd as a parasitologist. From here he was seconded to research in chemotherapy at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

In 1945 he went to Allen & Hanbury's Ltd at Ware to set up a new pharmacology department for the firm. This he built up and ran until 1958 when he left to join Parke-Davis at Hounslow as Director of Pharmacological Research. Here he remained until 1962.

Collier had thus enhanced his reputation as a scientist while working in an industrial environment. During the 1960s, while at Parke-Davis, he devoted much of his personal enthusiasm to an exploration of the function of small peptides such as bradykinin, recognized in the blood but whose function was then unknown.

During this period, the natural materials known as prostaglandins were discovered and recognized to be a novel kind of locally produced and locally effective hormone, "the coinage of the body's defences," as Collier later described them.

No doubt because of his own work with bradykinin, which can constrict the bronchi of the lung

as can some prostaglandins, Collier was one of the first to recognize the biological as well as practical importance (perhaps in the search for anti-neoplastic drugs) of these materials. In 1968, indeed, he even suggested that aspirin might function by interfering with the production of naturally occurring hormones such as the prostaglandins.

The demonstration that this is indeed what happens came three years later, in Dr J. R. Vane's Nobel-winning study at the Royal College of Surgeons.

In the latter part of his life Collier's interests turned more specifically to questions of the mechanisms of drug dependence and he published a number of papers on these and kindred topics, many of which evoked considerable popular interest.

Among these, published in *New Scientist*, were "On Chemical Comforts" (1956), "New Chemical Comforts" (1965), "Is LSD Dangerous?" (1966) and "The Essence of Pot" (1967).

Collier's last six years (as director of the Stoke Court research laboratory of Miles Laboratories, Ltd, after his retirement in 1962, gave him a chance to show that life with a postmaster can still be productive. His flair was that of provoking younger colleagues with questions that needed answering; his disappointment, that questions were too often shrugged off.

After his final retirement last year, he returned to academic work as an Honorary Professor of London University at Chelsea College where he set up and directed a research unit to study the mechanisms of drug dependence. There he showed that adenosine, a substance which occurs naturally in the brain, can interfere with the development of opiate dependence and its later manifestations. This may well prove to be an important step towards finding some means of preventing opiate dependence.

A highly literate man, Collier's interests outside his professional concerns ranged widely over the cultural fields, and he was particularly fond of poetry and drama. This interest allied with his own expertise he had on several occasions put at the service of authors writing radio plays and other material on drug themes, who were able to consult him on the veracity of their treatment of the effects of drugs on their characters.

Of his marriage in 1936, to Irene Margorie Richter, there were two daughters and a son.

## Britain denies damage to Elgin Marbles

By Michael Horne

A claim by a Greek professor that the British museum had caused irreversible damage to the Elgin Marbles was rejected yesterday as political propaganda.

Officials at the museum said the allegation that damage had been done to the statue of the caryatid from the Elgin collection by coating it with plastic film had been timed to increase pressure for the collection's return to the Parthenon by Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture.

Miss Mercouri is expected to call for the return of the Elgin Marbles in a speech on Monday during the International Congress of Classical Archaeology.

Earlier this week, Dr Theodore Skonlikidis, professor of physical chemistry at the Athens Polytechnic, who is on the Acropolis conservation committee, said that he had a letter from Dr David Wilson, the director of the British Museum, admitting that he had covered the caryatid with a water-soluble polymer to protect it from decay.

It had been established, Professor Skonlikidis added, that the coating of ancient marbles with plastic speeds up decay, and he claimed that the British Museum was having difficulty with the caryatid.

Dr Wilson was working abroad yesterday, but Mr Brian Cook, keeper of Greek and Roman antiquities, denied that such a letter existed.

Mr Cook said that the Greek Government had been informed

nearly 18 months ago in a letter from himself to Dr George Dantas, then keeper of the Acropolis, that the Caryatid had been treated in the late 1960s with a water-soluble polymer to protect it.

A 10 per cent solution of Polyethylene glycol had been used after cleaning — a widely used and well-tested method of conservation developed by the Victoria and Albert Museum — and that had left the caryatid "in perfectly good condition for a piece of marble 2,500 years old."

Mr Cook added that tests using molten polyethylene on marble in high concentrations of sulphur dioxide, such as are found in Athens, had been performed by the professor. However, they were scientifically misleading for that was a different technique from that applied to the caryatid and was normally used on limestone. "It is news to me that we are having problems," Mr Cook said.

It is a pity that a penny that on Monday Miss Mercouri will call for the return of the Elgin Marbles, and it is no coincidence that a few days beforehand Professor Skonlikidis brings this matter up.

The seventh Earl of Elgin, then ambassador to the Sublime Porte in Constantinople, brought the marbles to Britain at the beginning of the nineteenth century. There had been six Caryatids — female figures used as support pillars — and Lord Elgin shipped some the best preserved of them. One has been lost; the other four remain in Athens.

## Protective antibody recognized in breast milk

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The protection from infections conferred on babies while they are breast fed, and for some time after they have been weaned, is well recognized. Now a group of scientists has identified a specific antibody in breast milk that protects infants against a specific disease; but it does not prevent their becoming carriers of the infection.

The finding was made for cholera, which kills about five million people a year in developing countries, mostly children under the age of five. The discovery has important implications for immunization programmes because doctors are examining the possibility of deliberately increasing in lactating women, in areas of risk, the level of protective antibodies.

The discovery was made by a

team working with Dr Roger Glass, of the United States Centre for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia, at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Research in Dhaka. The results are reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The research was started in 1980 against a background of scientific observations that showed two general phenomena. Compared to bottle-fed babies, nursing babies were less prone to diarrhoeal infections and when stricken, second, in the developing countries where this form of illness was a prime cause of infant death, it was demonstrably clear breast milk protected against common diarrhoeal infections.

Although the circumstantial evidence for protection was regarded as conclusive, Dr Glass said no one had been able to show that specific breast milk antibodies protected against diarrhoeal illnesses. Nevertheless, the fact was that there were five times more children between the ages of two and nine being treated in hospital for cholera among non-breast fed infants.

Two antibodies found in breast milk were investigated for providing immunity against the cholera organism. The work involved two stages.

An examination was made to determine whether the two antibodies protected breast-fed babies from contracting cholera bacteria in their intestines or from getting the disease; and, second, to discover if protection could be enhanced by feeding mothers and babies B-subunit, a

non-toxic substance produced by the cholera organism but modified in the laboratory which had been shown to trigger an immune reaction by the body.

Since cholera is a highly infectious disease, the work had to be conducted under exacting conditions. The research also showed that the concentration of protective antibodies varied greatly in breast milk, and the proportion of children likely to become ill were significantly lower when the antibody levels were high.

Moreover, there were often unequal concentrations of the two antibodies. But the two protective agents appear to qualify for the EEC subsidies known as hill livestock compensatory allowances.

Uplands are defined as all areas above 800ft — about 15 per cent of the land area of England and Wales. The proposals will be seen as a tacit admission that hill-farming is desirable only for social reasons and is not economically justifiable.

The gulf that separates conservationists from farmers and landowners is illustrated by a recent statement from the North Yorkshire Branch of the Country Landowners' Association, which calls for fences to be allowed along main roads across the Yorkshire Moors.

The association says that so many sheep are being killed by traffic that farmers may be forced to remove their flocks from the moors. It rebuts the North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority's fear that fencing would lead to more grazing and a consequent change in the character of the moorland by pointing out that there are statutory powers to control the number of sheep.

At present large tracts of moor are undergrazed because of the increasing number of sheep killed, it says. "The absence of fencing will result in the most dramatic of all agricultural change, namely the removal of sheep from the moor."

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## THE ARTS

## Cinema

## A great showman, and never mind the message

The Leopard (PG)  
Gate Notting Hill

The Twilight Zone (15)  
Warner West End; ABC  
Shaftesbury Avenue;  
Studio Oxford Street

Koyaanisqatsi (U)  
Lumière

The misadventures of Luchino Visconti's *The Leopard*, and the reasons why it has taken 20 years to arrive in London in its authentic state, were described by Geoff Brown on this page yesterday. Even now it is not quite original, for it was shot in Technicolor; but if they have not quite recaptured the visual brilliance some of us remember from the 1963 Cannes Festival, where it won the Palme d'Or, the Technicolor laboratories have still done pretty well in restoring the marvels of Giuseppe Rotunno's photography.

In other respects, far from dating, the film actually looks better than it did on its first appearance. It may be that there is simply nothing of equal stature about at the moment for comparison (the film suggests incidentally what poor Cino, with many more millions but not a fraction of Visconti's flair, was trying for in *Heaven's Gate*). It may be too that in the intervening years we have adjusted our views of Visconti. We have ceased to trouble our aesthetic conscience about whether or not he was a great artist with a big humanist message to be read, and have settled for the fact that he was a great showman, entertainer, story-teller and *maitre-en-scène*.

He was a highly intelligent adapter, too. The script, written with a team including his regular collaborator Suso Cecchi d'Amico, is a very satisfying reading of Lampedusa's novel, turning words into images and moods. The final tableau scene, an hour-long display of marvellous visual bravura, is a clever cinematic equivalent to the Prince's long soliloquy which ends the book.

The story is set in Sicily at the period of the Risorgimento. Don Fabrizio, Prince of Salina (Burt Lancaster), is a survivor of a dying aristocratic race. He is at once fighting to prolong the reign of his clan and class, and mourning its extinction. Everywhere he senses decay, not just in the self-contained poverty of the country and in the old order, but in the revolution itself. The old regime finds accommodations with the new; the revolutionaries become the new bourgeois.



Visual bravura of Rotunno's restored photography in *The Leopard*

The Prince himself negotiates the marriage of his nephew Tancredi (Alain Delon) to the daughter of a rich parvenu and political opportunist (Paolo Stoppa), "without prestige, but with power, which is more important". The Prince himself perceives the contrast between the girl's peasant business and the inherited decadence of his own people. "We were the lions and the leopards. The jackals and hyenas will take our place. But we all, the lions, leopards, jackals and sheep, think we are the salt of the earth."

The energy of Visconti's treatment comes from his recognition that the Prince's melancholy is not an isolated and temporary sickness of history. It is a continuing problem. Each generation in turn must find itself swept from the present to the past, losing its grip on time.

Certainly Visconti himself shares the Prince's bitter-sweet nostalgia. He uses his Technicolor screen to record the life of that lost era in fascinated detail: the

family prayers in the great house, and the handkerchief which the Prince meticulously lays to kneel on; the things these people wore and ate; their beds, their sports, their manners. The images are richly evocative: the cortege of sombre carriages taking the family over the dusty brown landscape on the seasonal migration which even civil war cannot interrupt; the vista of worshippers in the great cathedral and beyond, the open door with carriages passing in the raw sunlight; the storeroom with all the chamber pots of a princely home ("A house where you know all the rooms is not worth living in"); the cloud of dust stirred up by a cinnoline as a girl runs through a deserted apartment.

It might be a museum; but Visconti gives it his characteristic theatrical vitality. The scene is in constant movement, propelled by a determined, formal choreography. Nino Rota's music, inclining to a pastiche of Verdi (there is a waltz which is actually claimed to be an unpublished Verdi composition), provides an almost uninterrupted commentary. It is intended as a compliment to the film to say that much of it (certainly Delon's young princeling) has the look of opera, and that you half expect the players at dramatic moments to burst into song.

With all the bravura and sensual delights, the film is immensely enjoyable. All that dates it is the sight of a starry cast still so young: Burt Lancaster, improbably dubbed into Italian; Alain Delon; a voluptuous Claudia Cardinale; and a positively infant Pierre Clementi, as the Prince's young son.

The *Twilight Zone*, which is brand new, actually looks more dated, because of its origins in twenty-year-old nostalgia. It is a tribute to Rod Serling's popular television series of the early Sixties, with four separate episodes, each by a different director.

Three of the episodes are taken from old *Twilight Zone* television scripts; significantly the one that is original to the film, written by its director John

Landis, is the least successful. The initial idea (suggested by a *Twilight Zone* episode, *A Quality of Mercy*) is good, but it never actually arrives at a dramatic conclusion. Vic Morrow plays a loud-mouthed, middle-aged racist, who finds himself translated into the role of a Jew in Occupied Paris, a Negro about to be lynched by the KKK in the Deep South and a fugitive in Vietnam. To be fair, the shooting of the episode was more than unlucky. Vic Morrow and two Vietnamese children were killed in a helicopter accident. The helicopter shots have been tactfully omitted from the final film; but the incident cannot have been creatively encouraging.

Steven Spielberg contributes a whimsical tale about old people in a retirement home transformed back into childhood. George Miller, who made *Mad Max*, directs a messy story about a man who is the only passenger on an aircraft to see a griffin on the wing. The most ingenious episode, directed by Joe Dante, is about a monstrous little boy who can have everything he wishes for except happiness, and has turned his house and adopted family into things from the world of animated cartoons that is always running, jumping and squeaking on the television sets everywhere in the house. Dante and his designers are very successful in giving the place and the people the look of animated drawings, but even this episode fails to resolve itself satisfactorily. The short-story omnibus is a form that has never succeeded in the cinema: the stop-and-start build-up of one sequence after another - particularly when they are all so much in the same vein, as here - just seems not to work.

*Twilight Zone* did better on television. Godfrey Reggio spent seven years of loving labour making *Koyaanisqatsi*, so that there is a sense of guilty ingratitude in not feeling more enthusiastic about it. It is the sort of skillful non-narrative montage of fine photographic effects that makers of short films offer from time to time. *Koyaanisqatsi*, though, is feature length. It is mainly a tribute to the cinematographer Ronald Fricke's lenses and filters and helicopters and slow-motion and time-lapse effects.

Meticulously counterpointed to the scholarly monotony of Philip Glass's music, the work is intended as "an intense and unique look at the superstructure and mechanics of modern life... [integrating] images, music and ideas". It is rather a matter of sensations more than ideas. The mushroom cloud, the spent rockets, the contrast of derelict humanity and industrial wealth, all the accusing faces (for instance if you go around pointing 60mm lenses at people) and none rather sensible Hopi Indian prophecies do not actually add up to a significant statement on the human condition.

"Koyaanisqatsi" is, it seems, a Hopi Indian word meaning "life out of balance".

David Robinson

## Television

## Ours is darkness

The British are a secretive lot. As a nation we reserve as a virtue so it is not surprising that our Government reflects this inclination to keep things quiet even when knowledge of them is obviously in the national interest.

BBC1 is currently probing this dense area of anti-democratic inhibition in *Secrets*, and is making a good job of it. Last night the producer Sue Bourne focused on state secrets and in particular on industrial pollution and alcoholism. Both are obviously against the national interest but not in the sense, say, of details of our latest anti-tank weapon, though secrecy appears to have just grown and grown.

The Anscobes, Alan and Sylvia, farm outside Huddersfield overlooking an ICI factory which is high enough on the hazard list to warrant an emergency disaster plan for the area. They are primarily concerned with what comes out of its chimneys. The council knows but will not tell - it only tells those it thinks should know, and frankness from ICI is provided by law.

The Anscobes are convinced the emissions are harmful. Mrs Anscobe has headaches and nausea. She and her husband, dutifully logging every apparent

transgression, have carried on a 15-year fight to find out. Other people are concerned, too, but the council's environmental officer, Mr John Greenwood, says the authority does not see the point of a liaison committee with residents - though he concedes, in general, that there should be a stronger right to know.

Then there is alcoholism. In 1979, a government report warned that it was a national epidemic. Neither Labour nor Conservative governments have released it. Enterprising foreigners have got hold of it and published it. Enquiries after copies have included the parliamentary library and the Department of Health. *Panorama* did a programme on it without being prosecuted (it is classified), and you can get it at some libraries though you could be prosecuted for that.

Those horrid foreigners are much more open. The Lanch, we learnt, consult - and citizens can readily find out what is going on and coming out of where. It seems that democracy, in what we like to think of as its cradle, has some way to go.

Dennis Hackett

## Promenade Concert

RPO/Groves

Albert Hall/Radio 3

Yo Yo Ma took the Prom audience by storm on Wednesday night in a passionately felt, forcefully projected performance of Dvorak's B minor Cello Concerto. Whether it was the sort of climate best suited to the work's healthy growth is another matter, but for sheer vigour of commitment and lack of compromise his reading well deserved its long applause.

It was the sort of playing which invited the audience to catch its every breath with the soloist, from the almost abrasively assertive opening, from its barely leashed second theme, through its prima donna act in the Adagio to the brutally vivacious finale. And if, particularly in the latter two movements, the music itself was threatened with eclipse, then so too, but more mercifully, was the Royal Philharmonic. It was a little higher on its toes than earlier in the week, but still unnecessarily ragged in ensemble.

When the soloist was inclined to take too little as given, the orchestra was allowed by Sir Charles Groves (replacing, for

unannounced reasons, Yuri Temirkanov) to take rather too much for granted. This reluctance ever to push the innermost content of the score quite as far as it can go took the edge off a performance of Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony which, though undistinctive in character, had broad cumulative power.

Those who watch as well as listen closely will notice time and time again how this orchestra's latent character and imagination flash to the surface as soon as eye-contact is established with its conductor. But too often again, the head remained bowed to the score, and attributes like the fine, sharp-edged tone at the start of the scherzo, or the subsidiary detail in the Adagio, slid out of focus.

The strings, too, needed to listen with far more imagination to the sound they were making in the slow movement in order to engage that of the audience. As it was, both here and in the finale, they seemed to weigh down, delight, and even fine woodwind and side drum solos could only take their place in a rather laboriously linear reading.

Hilary Finch

## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

## Social niceties get short shrift

Rosenkavalier  
Assembly Hall

Perhaps the shadow of Frank Turek, director-elect of the 1984 Edinburgh Festival, is already cast over a corner of this year's events. Mr Dunlop is a man of the theatre; his predecessors, virtually without exception, have been men of classical music. And so at the Assembly Hall this week and next there is a *Rosenkavalier* with neither singers nor orchestra but instead the actors of the Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow.

A note in the festival programme tantalizingly recalls the first sketch for *Der Rosenkavalier* found after Hofmannsthal's death. He devised it, much under the influence of Mozart, with his friend Count von Kessler and opened where Act II now begins, in the house of Fainal. Were the Citizens to play this fragment? Hopes of such a rarity were dashed by the sale outside the theatre of ENO's regular libretto. Inside the Citizens were offering the familiar Hofmannsthal text in translation (by Robert David MacDonald) with the music by Strauss R. (two quotations only) subjugated to that of Strauss J.

Philip Prowse, both director and designer of the play, has a good deal more success with his set than with his actors. Nothing could be further in flavour from eighteenth-century Vienna than

the interior of the Assembly Hall, which is pure Fort Knox, Calvinist variety. Prowse has turned his open stage into a vast sugary wedding cake surmounted by a myriad of candles, white canopies and murals. Above are billow-white canopies and in the centre is the rumpled bed where Octavian and the Marschallin have spent their night of love.

At the start it is a visual joy, from the centre stalls at least; upstairs the view might not be so good. But it scarcely helps to observe the social niceties of Hofmannsthal's comedy. Against all probability the Marschallin, Herr von Fainal and the Act III Gasthaus share the same furniture. "Do you call this a chamber separate?" is a question in the last act *melee*, and the audience is entitled to guffaw. But the social niceties, on which Hofmannsthal was an expert, are not exactly the strength of this production.

Gary Oldman's Octavian, a bullet-headed striping, far from being "a Young Gentleman of Noble Family" has scarcely an ounce of aristocracy in him, although it does help when he puts on a silver wig for the presentation of the rose. The first moral of this *Rosenkavalier* *ohne Musik* is that Octavian should be played by a woman as Hofmannsthal and Strauss directed.

The real hollow in the centre is Ochs himself. On the evidence of the first of the public performances Robert David MacDonald's

Ochs has no more style than his own translation. He starts with the physical disadvantage of being too old and too slim: thin Ochs are no more credible than emaciated Falstaff. Hofmannsthal recognized as much from the beginning when he complained that a spectre-like Ochs would be "the death of the opera". Mr MacDonald, his face pock-marked and carbuncled, his lips liver-coloured, looked more and more like Bela Lugosi and less and less like Baron Ochs as the evening progressed.

The successes included Katharine Kinnaird as the Marschallin, who brings a touch of imperial Vienna and in her melancholy monologue on the passing of time at last treats Hofmannsthal seriously. Yolanda Vasquez is a pretty and mettlesome Sophie while Claran Hinds and Johanna Kirby bring a touch of *commedia dell'arte* to the Italian intrigues.

Mr MacDonald may follow Hofmannsthal's text faithfully but he rarely makes contact with his spirit. Words from the 1980s - "poet", "spat" - lie uneasily with Sheridan-esque references to languishing and the vapours. After the first performance of *Der Rosenkavalier* at La Scala Hofmannsthal commented sadly that his text had a major defect: its charm and individuality disappeared in translation. And not only at La Scala...

John Higgins

Murderer, Hope of Women  
King's Theatre

A funny thing happened to Glen Tetley's new ballet on its way to Edinburgh. It lost the score by Schoenberg to which it was meant to be danced, and turned from being a ballet based on Oskar Kokoschka's play *Murderer, Hope of Women* into a production of the play directed by a choreographer, spoken by dancers and intermittently reinforced by the bangs of a percussionist in the pit. This curious *volte face* looks like a deliberate attempt to shock, but I suspect there may be a more simple explanation: the woolly-minded changing and chopping of ideas during rehearsal. On the other hand, the work is shocking, not for its mild pornography but for its waste of the talent of

performers and producers who normally show themselves on a different level from this.

One must not blame the disaster on the dancers. True, they had no skill in speaking their lines; and an appalling mixture of accents is made worse by the stylized rhythms that have been inflicted upon them. But there is also the point that, as a playwright, Kokoschka is a pretty good painter. If he were not, nobody would have given a moment's thought to reviving this rubbish.

I dare not try to summarize the plot, firstly because I think Kokoschka hardly had one, secondly because if he did Tetley has made no sense of it, and thirdly because you would hardly believe it if I described what they did and said.

However, the main themes do reveal themselves as blood and

lust, neither of them convincingly expressed either in the text or in the production.

Tetley presents the women as leopards on heat, the men as nagging and angry. The heroine (Lucy Burg) is Isadora Duncan dressed by Klimt. The murderer she hopes for is Albert van Nierop, painted in wood, given a punk hair-do and draped by Nadine Baylis with some of her all-purpose netting which also turns up in the other costumes. The two cases of Kokoschka's original production has for some extraordinary reason become a forest glade: an unlikely setting for all these goings-on.

Grasping desperately in an attempt to find any flotsam from the wreck, all I can get hold of is the self-conscious attempt to shock, with a mixture of crudity, semi-nudity and punk elements which I saw deplored better in a very minor workshop production

by Michael Clark at Riverside Studios last weekend. I also noticed once or twice some movements remembered from *Zigzag*. They served as a reminder of the days when Tetley was making real ballets for this company.

Probably for the first time in my life, I envied those members of the audience who, free of professional commitment, could leave the theatre as soon as it became clear how things were going.

It is odd that Kokoschka's paintings have ended up making so little contribution to this production, since Ballet Rambert seems to be on a real painterly kick this week. There is Bridget Riley's creation - which I shall be reviewing tomorrow - and this programme began with Robert North's ballet inspired by the paintings of Picasso. I must say that the latter, for all its ingenuity,

really has so little dance interest that it cannot bear repeated viewings.

In this context, Christopher Bruce's recent creation *Concerto* alone holds to the company's traditions by trying to make its dramatic points through the relation of dance and music. On seeing it again, I still find the exact nature of that drama confused, but it holds the attention safely and shows that the Rambert dancers, although they cannot do as well as dance, what a pity that the programme as a whole gave them so little opportunity to do so.

John Percival

Songmakers' Almanac  
Queen's Hall

Concertgebouw/  
Haitink

Usher Hall

The breadth and strength of music-making at this year's festival could scarcely be better demonstrated than by Wednesday's two main concerts. At the Queen's Hall, there were three

singers, a pianist and a narrator; at the Usher Hall the Concertgebouw were at full strength, including four Wagner tubes, for Bruckner's Ninth Symphony. Totally different forces, and yet both produced music of the highest quality while making sure that this year's theme of turn-of-the-century Vienna was never far from mind.

The Queen's Hall programme, devoted to the life and times of Alma Mahler, was never going to be a run-of-the-mill Lied recital of the reverential kind usual at 11 am. It opened with a song not by one of the composers whose faces gaze down from the walls of the key Vienna 1900 exhibition but by Tom Lehrer, "Alma". "The body which reached her emblem/Certainly knew how to live."

For the next two hours, steered by Janet Suzman, taking what must be an extremely welcome break from *Coriolanus* at the Ambassador's in London, we followed the course of that body beautiful and

especially its marriage to Gustav Mahler.

Graham Johnson, who doubles as a most engaging accompanist, has devised an adroit scenario of quotation and narration with the songs, including a couple of none too distinguished ones by Alma herself, sliding in past on cue. The mood, marvellously handled by Mrs Suzman, changes from gentle mockery to hot-house Vienna, where Alma can have what and whom she chooses, to total involvement with the death of Alma's first child and then Mahler himself. And, just in case anyone leaves in too melancholy a mood, there is the close with Alma up and away first to Walter Gropius and then to Franz Werfel.

The singers, all right on form, were Anthony Rolfs Johnson, sweet-voiced and serious, Richard Jackson, a polished speaker and a sturdy baritone, with Felicity Palmer, whose tones change colour swiftly with the prevailing mood. The Songmakers' Almanac will surely be repeating this unconventional programme, compiled and delivered with such polish and imagination.

At the Usher Hall Alfred Brendel was the soloist and Bernard Haitink the conductor in Beethoven's First Piano Concerto. Brendel too is incapable of being convention-bound. Some of his tempi may be quirky but the view and the playing are ever fresh, flecked with humour and filled with delicacy. He was justly cheered by a capacity house.

The Concertgebouw are among Edinburgh's oldest and most favoured visitors. When they first came in 1948 they brought Bruckner and this year they bring him again. And why not? He displays the Concertgebouw's resplendent brass and Haitink's special skill at sculpting a massive musical structure, which he does without turning to the score. The scherzo was held back a little so that the Trio could go at whirlwind pace, otherwise there

was no exaggeration, just the revelation of Bruckner's "firewell".

When John Drummond leaves Edinburgh at the end of next week he can look back on this day's work with pride.

John Higgins

## NEXT WEEK AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE

5 September to 10 September

**Olivier:** Mon, Tues 7.15, 8.00 & 7.15  
**Christopher Hampton's TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD**  
"A fascinating play about the colony of German writers who found themselves exiled in Tinseltown in the 1940s..." (P. Times)  
**Olivier:** Thurs, Fri 7.15, Sat 8.00 & 7.15  
**Sheffield's THE RIVALS**  
"Sumptuous, elegant, sensitive, melancholic and very funny" (P. Times)  
**Hart & Kaufman's famous YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU**  
"Superbly plotted comedy" (Times)

**Lyttelton:** Wed, Thurs, Fri 7.15, Sat 8.00 & 7.15  
**Edoardo de Filippo's INNER VOICES**  
"Ralph Richardson... mesmerising" (New York Times)  
**Cottesloe:** Mon 7.30  
**Manton's THE FAWN**  
"A great English comedy" (Observer)

**Cottesloe:** Tues, Wed, Thurs 7.30  
**Gay's THE BEGGAR'S OPERA**  
"Exuberant comedy of low life" (Times Out)

**Cottesloe:** Last 3 parts Fri 7.30, Sat 2.30 & 7.30  
**Peter Gill's SMALL CHANGE**  
"Completely absorbing" (Times Out)

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**Royal Opera House**  
Arts Council

**LULU**  
Alban Berg  
(Act III realised by Friedrich Cerha)

Conductor: Colin Davis

Cast includes:  
Karin Armstrong  
Brighton Fastbender  
Donald Grove  
Ryszard Karpowicz  
Robin Leggate/Gunter Reiche  
Erik Sedláček

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## Equity rally tails off

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Today. Closing Day, Sept 6. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The equity market decided to take its cue from the 20-point overnight rise on Wall Street yesterday with share prices opening on a firm note in an early flurry of activity.

But as the day wore on the rally showed signs of running out of steam and by the close a near 6 point lead on the FT index had been cut to only 1.2 at 708.6 by the close.

It appears British investors are taking American hopes of a cut in their interest rates with a pinch of salt - a point reinforced by Wall Street's failure to resume its advance when dealings resumed yesterday.

With just one day of the long three week account left to run investors were in no mood to chase prices higher in London.

Only government securities managed to hold on to their early gains ending the session with rises of up to 50p at the longer end of the market as the pound rose back above the \$1.50 level on the foreign exchange. It ended the day 0.8 cents higher at \$1.5025.

Tate & Lyle's £43m rights issue had little effect on sentiment with the shares putting up a good performance closing only 4p lower at 356p. But BP's interim proved disappointing and after a

quick slip to 440p closed unchanged at 436p.

Most blue chips ended well below their best levels of the day. Associated Dairies rose 2p to 165p, after 140p, still reflecting recent figures, while BOC Group lost 2p to 217p, after 220p, and

Shares of Phoenix Properties & Finance added 1p to 39p yesterday with dealers reporting heavy activity on the options market. The group is apparently eagerly awaiting the findings of its appeal to proceed with a leading property development near Gatwick which analysts estimate could be worth about £13m. The group currently boasts assets of only 23p a share.

Courtaulds a similar amount at 99p, after 102p.

The insurance companies were a weak market after Wednesday's report in *The Times* of a new unrealistic motor premium price war. Generali Royal Exchange, which reported on Wednesday, lost 19p to 486p. General

Accident 3p to 338p, Eagle Star 8p to 453p, Royal Insurance 7p to 506p and Phoenix Assurance 4p to 316p. Only Commercial Union resisted the trend rising 2p to 169p.

Still bolstered by hopes of a sell-off of its Unipart subsidiary shares of BL Limited continued to scale new heights adding 5p to 78p. The City estimates that a sale of the spare-parts subsidiary could bring in a much-needed £100m to the parent company now almost wholly owned by the Government. Shares of BL have risen 13p so far this week. Only a few months ago they were trading at about the 30p level.

At bid speculation was again good for another 6p on Inter-City Investments at 81p. Recently Wearwell, the East London textile group controlled by Mr Asil Nadir, the Turkish entrepreneur, bought more than 50 per cent of the shares, despite earlier details from Mr Nadir that he had any interest in the company.

Among builders Costain Group

were a firm feature climbing 8p to 220p ahead of figures on shortly, but Barratt Developments lost 4p to 212p, after 210p, still awaiting the findings of the inquiry into timber-framed houses. Rediffusion's success in sharing in a contract to supply the Government with flight simulators worth

£30m was good news for BET, up 5p to 248p. Earlier this year BET was the minority of Rediffusion's shares. Shares of Barratona Tea rose 12p to 125p after announcing the group had received an approach that might lead to an offer for the whole of the issue share capital of

the company. The Anglo-Indonesian Corporation owns about 20 per cent of the equity with the British-Borneo Petroleum Syndicate holding a further 14 per cent.

But the biggest shareholder is James Finlay with just under 30 per cent of the shares. At this level the group, which operates tea estates in Bangladesh, is worth £1.8m.

As expected Tongaat-Hulett is bidding for the outstanding 26.9 per cent of Tongaat Corogroup it does not own. The terms are expected to be announced today.

Shares of Tongaat Corogroup were suspended at a year's high of 433p on Tuesday after Hulett made its minority bid for the South African clay brick maker. At the close of business last night Hulett was unchanged at 535p.

Finance for the West had reduced its stake in Exploration from 928,000 to 828,000, representing 6.86 per cent of the equity. Exploration's biggest shareholder is the El Oro Mining

Shares of British Aerospace celebrated the signing of the Government with a 2p rise to 180p before closing unchanged at 177p. The deal is thought to be worth about £300m and won in the face of stiff opposition from the United States.

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**BRITISH FUNDS**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**BANKS AND DISCOUNTS**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**BREWERS AND DISTILLERS**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100.00	99.50	British Fund	100.00	+0.50	+0.5	5.0
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**Other Markets**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
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**Gold**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
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**STERLING: SPOT AND FORWARD**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
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**Money Market Rates**

High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld
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**Other Markets**

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Investment  
and  
FinanceCity Editor  
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 708.6 up 1.2  
FT 100 Index 79.51 up 0.18  
FT All Shares 451.35 up 0.99  
(Datastream estimate)  
Bargains: 20,546  
Datastream USM Leaders  
Index 100.26 up 0.52  
New York Dow Jones  
Average (latest) 1212.91  
down 3.25  
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones  
Index 9,228.35 up 38.92  
Hongkong Hang Seng  
Index 855.24 down 10.70  
Amsterdam 149.9 up 0.5  
Sydney AO Index 706.5 up  
5.2  
Frankfurt Commerzbank  
Index 926.80 up 12.70  
Brussels General Index  
132.20 down 0.23  
Paris CAC Index 134.5  
down 0.2  
Zurich SKA General 297.3  
up 2.7

## CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling \$1.4990 up 1/2 cent  
Index 85.5 up 0.3  
DM 4.0425 up 0.01  
FF 12.1550 up 0.0425  
Yen 370 up 2.0  
Dollar Index 129.4 down 0.1  
DM 2.6940

**NEW YORK LATEST**  
Sterling \$1.4975  
Dollar DM 2.6965  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
ECU20.58424  
SDR20.699531

## INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Bank base rate 9%  
Finance houses base rate 10  
Discount market loans fixed 9%  
3 month interbank 9 1/8% - 9 1/4%  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 10 1/8% - 10 1/4%  
3 month DM 5 1/4% - 5 1/2%  
3 month FF 15 1/2% - 15  
**US rates:**  
Bank prime rate 11.00  
Fed funds 9%  
Treasury long bond 100% - 100 1/2%  
**ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling**  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for  
interest period July 6 to August  
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per  
cent.

## GOLD

**London fixed (per ounce):**  
am \$41.80 pm \$41.80  
close \$41.65-41.77 (\$277.50-  
278) up \$2  
New York latest \$41.60  
Krugger (per coin)  
\$429-430.50 (\$286-287)  
Sovereigns (new)  
\$98.99 (\$65.75-66)  
\*Excludes VAT

## TODAY

**Interims:** Aga, Alexander  
Higgs, Church and Co., Ham-  
ilton Oil Great Britain, Meller-  
ware Int'l, Westwood Dressed  
**Finals:** Consolidated Plan-  
tations, Whitworth Electric.  
**Economic Statistics:** Car and  
commercial vehicle production  
(July - final). Unemployment  
and unfilled vacancies (August  
- Prov). Housing starts and  
completions (July). House  
renovations (second quarter).  
United Kingdom official re-  
serves (August). Capital issues  
and redemptions (during the  
month of August).

## ANNUAL MEETINGS

**Bridgend Processes,** Con-  
naught Rooms, Great Queen  
Street, WC2 (11.00).  
**Cable & Wireless,** Savoy  
Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon).  
**Coleman Industries,** Browns  
Hotel, Dover Street, W1 (noon).  
**Hallam Group,** Wyndham House,  
Southmoor Road, Wythen-  
shaw, Manchester (11.00).  
**Shaw Carpets,** Post House,  
Ossett, N. Wakefield (noon).  
**Stroud Riley Drummond,**  
Bankfield Hotel, Bingley (11.30)

Meaney takes  
top Rank job

The Rank Organisation com-  
pleted the formation of its new  
board of directors yesterday with  
the appointment of Sir Patrick  
Meaney as chairman. He was  
formerly chairman of Thomas  
Tilling, which was recently taken  
over by BTR.

The current chairman, Mr  
Russell Evans, will step down  
from his £73,000-a-year job in  
November. His three-year service  
contract will be honoured, Rank  
said yesterday.

Lucas Aerospace, which lost  
a fiercely fought contract to build  
a new anti-radar missile for the  
RAF, has been awarded a multi-  
million contract to build parts for  
its successful rival.

Redundancies part of new chairman's strategic plan  
More job losses and yard closures  
warning at British ShipbuildersBy Edward Teasdale  
Industrial Correspondent

A new long-term plan for the  
future of crisis-ridden British  
Shipbuilders will be presented to  
the Government before Christ-  
mas, Mr J. Graham Day revealed  
yesterday as he took over as  
chairman of the state industry.

He warned, however, that the  
redundancy programme, involv-  
ing 9,000 job losses, would  
continue, and that yard closures  
could not be ruled out.

Mr Day, a 50-year-old Cana-  
dian and former barrister, also  
called for a new attitude among  
workers - "from the managing  
director to the tea lady" - and  
much improved efficiency and  
productivity in the yards. With-  
out these changes, he said, "an  
amount of Government help or  
market revival will shield us from  
the cold blast," he said.

Mr Day was one of three  
nationalized industry chairmen  
who formally assumed their roles  
yesterday. Mr Robert Haslam,  
former deputy chairman of ICI  
and still chairman of Tate and  
Lyle, took over at British Steel  
from Mr Ian MacGregor who  
moved over to the National Coal  
Board in place of Sir Norman  
Siddall.

His further expected move,  
BSC announced that the deputy  
chairman, Mr Robert Scholey,  
had been appointed chief executive.

Mr Day's strategic plan, which  
will be presented to Mr Norman  
Lamont, the minister in charge  
of shipbuilding, will consider  
whether the BS structure and  
product line is appropriate in the  
badly depressed world market,  
put forward ways to close the  
infamous gap between British and  
Far East ship prices and reduce  
the corporation's losses.



Mr Graham Day (left), the new British Shipbuilders' chief, with fellow nationalized industry chairmen Mr Ian MacGregor (top right) and Mr Robert Haslam.

The latter totalled £128m last  
year and while they would be less  
this year, said Mr Day, there was  
no chance of breaking even.

Sir Robert Atkinson, Mr Day's  
predecessor, failed to win whole-  
hearted support from Mr Lamont  
for a £200m emergency package  
of measures to tide over the  
industry until orders improve.

The Minister promised only  
that he would study requests for  
assistance on a case-by-case basis.

A response that was not greeted  
favourably by Sir Robert, who  
had also made known his  
opposition to the piecemeal  
privatization of the warship  
yards, a move high on the  
Government's denationalization  
list.

How much of Sir Robert's  
proposals, including an accelera-  
tion of orders from other  
nationalized industries and a  
rethink of the shipbuilding

intervention fund, Mr Day will  
take on board is not yet clear.

He said yesterday, however: "I  
am more than happy to take up  
Mr Lamont on his case-by-case  
basis and I look for an early  
opportunity to explore it. The  
failure to agree on how the crisis  
might be dealt with was partly  
due to timing."

Mr Day confirmed that the  
month pay freeze imposed by Sir  
Robert would be maintained at

he hinted that there could be  
considerable room for manoeuvre  
on negotiation of level incentive  
schemes, improvements in  
pay had to be made from greater  
efficiency, he said.

Mr Day, one of the youngest  
and - at £800 a year plus a  
performance-related bonus - the  
highest paid nationalized industry  
chairmen, was careful yesterday  
not to be drawn too deeply into  
the privatization controversy  
although he warned that if  
warship design capability was put  
into private hands, the BS  
shipyards would have to pay  
more.

"The main issue is the market  
for merchant vessels. My atten-  
tion will be focused on that and  
the return of the warship builders  
to the private sector I don't see as  
an issue I see myself as an  
experienced professional line  
manager not particularly hung up  
on an ideological ideology."

Mr Day, who was chief  
executive of the BS organizing  
committee in 1975 but left  
amidst delays in the nationaliza-  
tion legislation, said: "I was  
used to running a number of  
people in the 1970s but I think if  
any of the market realities had  
been perceived then, we would be  
in a more solid position today."

He added that he agreed with  
Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary  
of State for Trade and Industry,  
at "political and social con-  
siderations are for the govern-  
ment and I am hired as a  
commercial manager to make  
commercial decisions."

Since 1979, the UK flag  
merchant fleet has halved and BS  
has faced a world slump aggra-  
vated by alleged dumping of  
ships by the South Koreans  
which has led to British prices  
being as much as 35 per cent  
higher.

Idle assets, page 15

Lloyd's record profit  
fails to allay fears

By Andrew Cornall

Sir Peter Green, chairman of  
the Lloyd's of London insurance  
market, yesterday appealed for a  
return to sanity in world  
insurance markets, after reporting  
that more than 80 per cent of  
Lloyd's profits are coming from  
investment income and capital  
gains, rather than pure underwrit-  
ing.

Giving details of record overall  
profits of £264m for 1982, the last  
completed trading period, Sir  
Peter said that the figures are  
"a most unusual point of view,  
a cause of some concern. Lloyd's  
keeps its accounts open for three  
years to assess its liabilities more  
accurately."

He said it is a sobering thought  
that pure underwriting profit in  
1982 amounted for only £22m, or  
8.25 per cent of the overall profit  
and did not cover management  
expenses.

"These figures clearly demon-  
strate what market leaders have  
been saying in the last few years,  
namely that far too few have  
been conducting a business which is so  
dependent on the 'investment  
department to produce a bottom  
line profit," Sir Peter said.

A prolonged fall in interest  
rates would undoubtedly produce

an unwelcome result for the  
Lloyd's business, he added.

This year's global accounts for  
Lloyd's have been returned to the  
Department of Trade in the same  
form as insurance company  
accounts for the first time to meet  
the requirement laid down in the  
Insurance Companies Act 1982.

Premium income in 1982  
totalled £1,862m, reinsurance  
premiums reached £1,791m and  
investment income came to  
£398m. Out of this, Lloyd's paid  
£158m in claims, £211m in  
reinsurance, and £156m in  
expenses.

Despite the bad publicity  
surrounding the recent scandals in  
the 300-year-old insurance mar-  
ket, Sir Peter said that 2,200 new  
names are expected to join  
Lloyd's next year.

He said that, fortunately,  
Lloyd's business seems likely to  
keep pace with this growth.

Mr Derek Farley, chairman of  
the Lloyd's Motor Underwriters  
Association, gave a warning that  
although the 1980 motor accounts  
produced a healthy £41m, under-  
writing profit there will be a fall in  
profits in 1981 and 1982 after  
severe competition in the market  
had forced rates down.

BPCC plan  
for Odhams  
site in doubt

By Our Financial Staff

British Printing & Commu-  
nication Corporation's £20m deal to  
redevelop the former Odhams  
printing plant site in Watford for  
retail use was thrown into  
confusion last night when Wat-  
ford Council said that it is  
unlikely to grant planning per-  
mission.

A spokesman for the council said  
that the plan to build a J  
Sainsbury hypermarket on the 20-  
acre Odhams site is clearly  
contrary to the district's develop-  
ment and the council plan. "Our council  
has been dead set against out-of-town  
centre hypermarkets because of the  
detrimental effect on the town  
centre," the spokesman said.

The council statement followed  
criticism of the Odhams deal by  
Kleinwort Benson, the merchant  
bank adviser to John Waddington  
in its attempt to find off an £18m  
takeover bid by BPCC.

Kleinwort accused BPCC of  
exaggerating the benefits to flow  
from the proposed redevelopment  
of the Odhams site.

The strong impression given by  
BPCC is that this redevelopment  
will give rise to a substantial cash  
inflow to BPCC, Kleinwort said.

Mr Maxwell countered last  
night by stating that he is  
confident that planning per-  
mission will be obtained for the  
redevelopment. He said an appeal  
would be likely if the BPCC  
proposal was turned down.

Mr Maxwell also said that  
BPCC's cash and profit forecasts  
are not in any way dependent  
upon the proceeds of the Odhams  
deal. He said that the major coup  
by BPCC was the closure of the  
Odhams printing plant and not  
the proposed redevelopment.

The BPCC bid for Waddington  
closes a week today.

● The Merchant Navy pension  
fund, has acquired buildings  
occupying two-thirds of an acre of  
prime land in the heart of the City  
in what is seen as the largest  
City property deal this year. The  
fund is paying £32m for the  
freehold of adjacent properties on  
Old Broad Street and Great  
Winchester Street.

Hawley bid  
for Cope  
shares

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley  
Group had made an unusual  
tender offer for shares in Cope  
Allman International to take it  
stake up to a strategic 29.99 per  
cent. The offer comes just a few  
months after Cope successfully  
fought off a consortium bid.

On Wednesday Hawley ac-  
quired the 7.65 per cent share-  
holding in Cope held by Hollis  
Broes and ESA at 72 1/2p per share.  
This deal took the Hawley stake  
up to more than 20 per cent.

A further 13.6 per cent in Cope  
is held by Mr David Wickins of  
the British Car Auction Group  
and if he does not accept the offer,  
Hawley and BCA will control 44  
per cent of the shares.

The takeover Panel said it has  
been given firm assurances that  
they are not acting together.

## £43m cash call at Tate &amp; Lyle

By Michael Frost

Tate & Lyle, the sugar refining  
and sweetener group, became the  
latest company to seek funds from  
shareholders when it made a one  
for four rights issue yesterday to  
raise £43m. The issue price is  
310p, and yesterday the shares fell  
by 4p to 356p.

The issue, which will bring Tate  
£41m after expenses, increased  
the total raised by rights issues so  
far this year to £3,225m compared  
with £3,018m for the whole of  
1982.

Tate shareholders were told  
that pretax profits for the year to  
October 1 should be around  
£55m, some £15m more than in  
the previous year. The issue's  
attractiveness was further increased  
by the likelihood of the dividend

going up to 15.5p net compared  
with 13.5p net last year.

The underwriters were Har-  
nworth, Benson, the merchant  
bank and the stockbrokers W. W.  
Greenwell. It is understood that  
the sub-underwriters had taken up  
their full allocation by the close  
of business yesterday.

The company says the pro-  
ceeds will be used to take  
acquisitions and expand the  
sweetener industry worldwide.

For some time Tate has not  
secret of its interest in North  
America, but last night the  
company said that it had no  
particular purchase in mind. Tate  
owns a sugar refinery at Bakers  
in New York State, and an

artificial sweetener maker,  
Zymaze, in Canada.

In support of its request for  
funds, Tate points out that for the  
last few years its resources have  
been concentrated on eliminating  
overcapacity and modernizing  
British sugar refining operations.

Tate is the country's only  
refiner of cane sugar, most of  
which is imported from the  
African, Caribbean and Pacific  
countries under agreement with  
the Common Market.

At the same time the company  
has reduced the proportion of  
earnings from commodity trad-  
ing, once a major cyclical factor in  
its results, and has improved the  
return on capital employed and  
cut borrowings.

£1,350m boost for  
UK trade surplus

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's surplus on overseas  
trade in goods and services last  
year was £1,350m, an increase for  
earlier years, according to the  
first thought according to the  
Government's balance of pay-  
ments *Pink Book* published  
yesterday.

It shows that last year the  
country ran a balance of pay-  
ments current account surplus of  
£5,428m, compared with an  
estimate of £4,081m published a  
week ago. The record 1981  
surplus has also been revised  
upwards from £6,005m to  
£6,547m.

The revisions stem almost  
entirely from new estimates of  
invisible earnings from services  
such as banking, insurance,  
shipping and tourism. These have  
been bumped up the invisible surplus

by £1,456m last year and £404m  
in 1981, with small increases for  
earlier years.

A big reassessment of Britain's  
trading performance so far this  
year - is now July, New - and  
almost certainly higher - figures  
for invisible earnings for the first  
six months of a year are due to  
be published at week.

These are likely to show the  
Government is closer to its  
£1,500m target of payments  
surplus for the year as a  
whole than earlier figures had  
suggested, despite a sharp deterio-  
ration in trade in goods.

Investing in overseas stocks  
and shares jumped £900m in  
1979, while changing controls  
were adopted to an unprece-  
dented £70m last year.

Flurry of  
buying  
lifts dollarBy Peter Wilson-Smith  
Banking Correspondent

Reports that the Soviet Union  
had shot down a South Korean  
airliner ironically led to a flurry  
of dollar buying yesterday afternoon,  
reversing the US currency  
which had been flagging on profit-  
taking.

Indications that the US econ-  
omic growth may begin to slow  
led to profit-taking in the dollar  
earlier and more than outweighed  
the continuing concern about US  
money supply growth putting  
pressure on interest rates.

The bout of dollar buying after  
reports of the airline accident  
stemmed mainly from New York  
but was not sustained. After  
recovering to DM2.6970, against  
the Deutschmark the dollar  
eased and it closed in London at  
DM2.6940 - a fall of nearly 1  
penny on the day.

Starting closer back through  
\$1.50 to the dollar at one stage,  
but ended the day 1/2 cent up at  
\$1.4990. It was also firmer against  
continental currencies and its  
trade-weighted value rose 0.3 to  
85.5.

The pound was 1 penny  
firmer against the Deutschmark  
at DM4.0425.

The markets are still worried  
that US money supply growth in  
the next few weeks will push M1  
further outside the Federal  
Reserve's targets.

A warning that rapid money  
growth will lead to accelerating  
inflation was given by Mr Milton  
Friedman, the Wall Street guru in  
yesterday's *Wall Street Journal*.

## Dow halts sharp slide

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

S-tocks recovered rapidly from a  
sharp slide yesterday after reports  
that a Korean airliner had been  
shot down by a Soviet fighter.

The Dow Jones Industrial  
average was down about two  
points. It fell more than seven  
during the morning session.

Advancing issues gained to a 5-  
to-4 lead over declines. The  
trading pace had slowed from the  
early morning.

Mr Henry Launder, Paine  
Webber, market analyst said:  
"The market acts better than  
anticipated considering the news  
about the jetliner being shot  
down. But gold was not carried

away a stock prices did not fall  
very far. Thus, the market should  
move in the area of overhead  
supply around the Dow 1,225  
level."

General Motors was up 3/4 to  
71 1/4, down 1/4 at 112 1/2.  
Ford Instrument up 1/4 at 116 1/2.  
NCP up 1/4 at 120 1/2, Caterpillar up  
1/4 at 129 1/2, International Business  
Machines up 1/4 at 118 1/2, General  
Electric up 1/4 to 50 1/2, Inter-  
national Paper up 1/4 at 53 1/2, and  
Jensen & Johnson up 1/4 to 41 1/2.

James Capel first in 'hit-or-miss' annual ritual  
Top spot unchanged in analysts survey

By Derek Pais

The agony is over. Today, after  
all the lobbying and hunching and,  
of course, volumes of research the  
City's growing army of analysts  
know just how they have fared in  
that yearly ritual, the Continental  
Illinois survey.

For 10 years the American  
bank's survey has been the one  
all-embracing guide to an analyst's  
standing. And although the men  
and women who spend their time  
studying companies and indus-  
tries say they do not like being put  
under the microscope, there is no  
doubt that the Continental  
Illinois exercise is a serious  
weapon when it comes to pay  
bargaining and head hunting.

But the hit or miss nature of  
the survey - find managers  
provide information for the  
ratings - has been criticized.  
Continental adds to the doubt by  
pointing out that only 19  
institutions have replied each year  
since the survey was launched.  
A total of 199 managers

representing about half the  
managed in London replied this  
year. The bank said: "We feel  
that our sample has a great deal  
of validity and is a reasonable  
one."

The stockbrokers James Capel  
and Springour Kemp-Gee  
were the top two in the survey.  
Wood Mackenzie  
Laird & Crickshank  
W. Greenwell  
De Zoete & Bevan  
Simon & Coates  
Savory Miln  
Hoare Govett

Geoffrey Carr, Mr Nick Bubb, Mr  
Gerald Horner and Mr John  
Howett (Springour), Mr Ian  
McLean and Mr Philip Angus  
(Wood Mackenzie) and Mr Keith  
Percy and Mr Kenneth Inglis  
(Phillips and Drew).

Most surprising result is that  
Mr Colin Mitchell (Stockmaster  
and Moore) has after nine years  
lost the top spot among the be-  
liever analysts. Mr Mitchell is on

holiday and due back at his office  
on Monday.

Over the survey's 10 years only  
14 analysts have survived from  
the first and only 15 have stayed  
top of their sector for at least eight  
of the 10 years.

What about the next 10 years?  
Continental believes the changes  
under way at the Stock Exchange  
could have a significant impact on  
analysts.

"These stockbrokers who have  
decided to emphasize research are  
now well established with top  
teams in place. Newcomers to the  
research market may find it  
increasingly difficult and expen-  
sive to carve a niche in any  
significant sector."

The bankers add: "It does  
mean, however, that a combi-  
nation of negotiated commissions  
and increasing turnover outside  
the market could mean less  
commission income to support  
any but the best research  
analysts."

## City Editor's Comment

Now the invisibles  
come to light

The revelation yesterday  
that Britain last year ran a  
surplus on her international  
balance of payment nearly  
£1,500m higher than pre-  
viously suggested serves as a  
pointed reminder of the  
pitfalls that lie in wait for the  
unwary, by they policy  
maker or speculator, who  
dare to put their trust in  
official statistics.

Instead of a current  
account surplus of £4,081m  
shown by the most recent  
trade figures only a week  
ago, the balance of pay-  
ments "Pink Book" reveals  
a 1982 surplus of £5,428m.  
This, we are told, results  
from the discovery of  
£1,456m of extra invisible  
earnings, mostly income on  
investments abroad, due to  
"later and more complete  
information".

The record surplus in  
1981, initially put at just  
over £6,000m, has by the  
same token, also been  
revised up to £6,547.

These revisions are not  
simply of historical inter-  
est. They imply that the  
trade statistics for this year  
too are seriously underesti-  
mating Britain's perform-  
ance on invisibles - the ser-  
vices provided by the City,  
shipping, tourism and the  
like - and thus giving an  
excessively gloomy picture  
of what is happening to our  
external balance.

According to the White-  
hall statisticians, the invis-  
ible balance has been  
running in the black to the  
tune of around £250m a  
month so far this year,  
reflecting a sizable im-  
provement on the £150m a  
month initially estimated  
for last year. In fact, we  
now know the true figure in  
1982 was £275m a month.  
If, as forecasts from the  
Committee on Invisible  
Exports suggest, invisible  
earnings are indeed set for  
a substantial increase this  
year, big upward revisions  
for 1983 are in prospect.

The first of these will  
come with the second  
quarter's balance of pay-

ments estimates released in  
a week's time.

Only a few days ago, it  
seemed that the Govern-  
ment's forecast of a  
£1,500m external payments  
surplus this year would be  
proved hopelessly optimis-  
tic, with a cumulative  
surplus of only £478m, in  
the first seven months.  
That gloom now looks  
somewhat misplaced.

Britain's invisible ex-  
ports, thus, have every  
reason to feel pleased with  
themselves (even though a  
large part of the City's  
extra earnings last year, for  
instance, reflected windfall  
gains from the lower  
pound). Excluding govern-  
ment transactions, the pri-  
vate sector invisibles sur-  
plus of more than £7,000m  
in 1982 far exceeded the  
£4,600m contribution made  
by North Sea oil.

Nevertheless, the unex-  
pected boost to



# Reliable Cadbury unwraps 9% rise

**Cadbury Schweppes**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £33.5m (£30.7m)  
Turnover £782.7m (£656.5m)  
Net interim dividend 1.50p (1.40p)  
Share price 105p  
Dividend payable 24.10.83

Cadbury Schweppes has become one of those boringly predictable groups. Profits, with just the occasional mad flurry, move forward with steady precision.

Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman, duly unwrapped another Cadbury-style set of figures yesterday when he announced that interim pretax profits had advanced by a commendable 9.1 per cent to £33.5m, much in line with City expectations. So for the full year maybe £100m, against £89m seems likely.

Cadbury remain deep in an extensive capital spending programme which should peak this year. Meanwhile, this is pushing up interest charges - £4.6m higher at £11.6m at the interim mark.

Much of the interim lift has come from America where the soft drinks to sweets company has spent heavily on acquisitions and subsequent reorganization.

American profits at the trading level more than doubled to £5.1m, with confectionary sales buoyant, but the soft drink side is enduring "dull" trading. However, Cadbury is establishing itself in new markets such as apple juice where it is now the brand leader.

Australia and South Africa continued to advance and in Britain, despite a bout of chocolate price cutting, margins have improved across the range and trading profits rose nearly £2m to £2.17m.

Overall interim sales progressed 16.2 per cent with trading profits (£42.5m) up 18.7 per cent. At 105p the shares are historically yielding 6.7 per cent.

## RIGHTS ISSUES IN AUGUST (m)

Evode Group	4.0
Unitich	6.6
Aurora Holdings	9.0
Group Lotus	2.3
Dicksons Group	21.1
Parkdale Holdings	1.1
Steinberg Group	4.1
Charnberlain Phipps	2.9
Midland Bank	180.0
Cambrian & General Securities	10.3
Fleming American Investment	19.8
Nesco Investment	0.9
Tate & Lyle (September)	43.0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>285.1</b>

Source: Samuel Montagu

## British Petroleum

**British Petroleum**  
Half-year to 30.6.1983  
Net income £484m (£251m)  
Turnover £15,529m (£14,218m)  
Net interim dividend 4.8p  
Share price 438p, Yield 4.8%  
Dividend payable 17-11-83.

If there were any fears that BP's second-quarter results would scupper the Chancellor's plans for an early sale of another £500-worth of shares, yesterday's interim statement has duly dispelled them. Improved profits, a higher dividend and generally rosier outlook than prevailed six months ago, all point to the likelihood that the sale will be completed as soon as possible - quite probably this month.

The figures show that the long-awaited turnaround in the troubled downstream markets for oil and chemicals is finally beginning to materialise, reflecting both the firming-up of the oil market after the March OPEC meeting and BP's own efforts to hack its business back into some form of competitive shape.

Although currency facts have magnified the apparent improvement, oil trading on the underlying replacement basis improved from a £15m loss in the first quarter to a £123m profit in the second quarter. The Olayan and British markets both offered improvements after the horror stories of the last two years, although this was partially offset by the profit contractions of the French product-pricing control system. Chemical losses continue, but at a reduced level.

Perhaps equally significant is the fact that, after spending much of last year wholly dependent on Sohio for its profitability, the rest of the BP group is beginning to make some sort of return again.

In the last nine months reported figures, BP has made net profit of £287m, while Sohio has turned in £470m. In the first nine months of last year, by contrast, BP lost £97m, while Sohio produced £441m.

There are signs that capital spending has been controlled to help generate extra cash-flow. Spending other than on Sohio was £704m in the first half, whereas two years ago the then chairman, Sir David Steel, was talking of expenditure of £2,000m a year.

The company, no doubt mindful of these taunts a while back about its lack of cash-flow outside North America, made a point yesterday of saying BP had a cash surplus of £290m in the first half and as a group repaid nearly £650m of outstanding debt.

The company is on course for replacement-cost full-year profits of £900m plus, with the added spice of the Chinese and Alaskan exploration wells this autumn to keep investors happy if the sale comes in the next few weeks.

## Cambridge Electronic

**Cambridge Electronic Industries**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £3.95m (£3.12m)  
Turnover £50.1m (£48.7m)  
Net interim dividend 1.8p (1.5p)  
Share price 283p Yield 2.8  
Dividend payable

One of the troubles with being a high flyer is that any apparent drop in altitude can cause alarm. And so it was yesterday with Cambridge Electronic Industries, the group carved out of Philips two years ago. On hearing that interim pretax profits have risen by a mere 27 per cent to £3.95m the market promptly marked the shares down 10p to 263p.

There is no doubt that for those expecting a huge advance from last year's full pretax profits of £7.5m this first six months looks disappointing. But the underlying position remains sound.

The order book is running at about 8 per cent above that of last year, and the balance sheet is healthy despite the extra turnover - up from £39.7m to £50m - absorbing more working capital and the oddity that, with a positive net cash position, falling interest rates result in lower income.

Nevertheless, there is no doubt at Cambridge Electronic is feeling the competitive pinch. Prices were raised by only about 4 per cent across the board. And turnover excluding Elec-Trol was up by 18 per cent.

The jump from operating profits of £296,000 to £645,000 in specialist engineering owed a lot to one mysterious export order, and defence profits were more or less static at £1m.

Electronic and electrical components rose from £1.53m to £2.26m.

## Tate & Lyle

Tate & Lyle's £43m rights issue is the latest in the apparently relentless stream of money raising. Shareholders have been asked in the first eight months of this year to dig into their pockets for £3.255m, compared with £3.018m for the whole of last year. On top of that, Unlisted Securities Market issues have amounted to £140m, against £119m.

Whatever doubts analysts may have entertained about the equity boom, shareholders have clearly felt otherwise. And the ability of investors - whether institutional or private - to find the cash reflects interestingly on the periodic scares about liquidity shortages. It was not difficult, therefore, for Tate & Lyle to get its timing right.

Tate clearly has attractions, however. The forecast of £55m pretax for the year, some £15m more than last year, is possible quite simply because the business is in the best condition for six or seven years.

Tate's management has achieved one of the most credible restructurings the depression has seen in this country.

After spending about £40m on modernising the British cane refining, still the historic heart of the business, and making as much as £70m gross from disposals, Tate has achieved significant improvements in productivity.

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**East of Scotland Onshore**  
Year to 31.5.83  
Pretax profit £433,000 (£419,000)  
Turnover £243p (£232p)  
Net dividend 2p (1.85p)

**Cattle's Holdings**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £922,000 (£807,000)  
Turnover £35.4m (£34.7m)  
Net interim dividend 7p (6.8p)

**Arrow Chemical Holdings**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £168,000 (£133,000)  
Turnover £3.2m (£3m)  
Net interim dividend 0.5p

**British Vending Industries**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £155,000 (£152,000)  
Turnover £9.6m (£9.5m)  
Net interim dividend 0.35p (same)

**J. and J. Makin Paper Mills**  
Year to 31.3.83  
Pretax profit £954,000 (£841,000)  
Turnover £30.2m (£18.6p)  
Net dividend 5p (same)

**Continental Microwave (Holdings)**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £407,000 (£331,000)  
Turnover £8.54 (£8.37)  
Net interim dividend 5p (7p)

**Fleming Cleverhouse**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £210,000  
Turnover £3.62p

**Noble & Lund**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax loss £273,000 (profit £30,000)  
Loss per share 4.79p (profit 0.34p)  
Turnover £215,000 (£205,000)  
Net interim dividend 10p (7.5p)  
Share price 19p up 1p Yield 2.6%

**Micro Business Systems**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £814,000 (£353,000)  
Turnover £8.8 (£2.7m)  
Net interim dividend 1p (nil)

**Morgan Crucible**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £4.3m (£4.4m)  
Turnover £78.8m (£76.3m)  
Net interim dividend 3.5p (same)

**Marsh & McLennan**  
The company said that its Fireman's Fund Insurance offshoot has completed the sale of Crusader Insurance to Cigna Corporation. Crusader was 75 per cent owned by Marsh, with the rest owned by Marsh, with the rest owned by a subsidiary of American Express.

**Kraft Productions** - Formal details of the issue of 1.47m new ordinary shares to a consortium have been published. The consortium has a number of acquisitions under consideration, including a specialist furniture manufacturer and retailer. The company is also looking at the possibility of acquiring investment properties owned by members of the consortium.

## Base Lending Rates

BN Bank	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
CCI	9 1/2 %
Bank Savings	11 1/4 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
Claude & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Mand Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSI	9 1/2 %
Wills & Glyn's	9 1/2 %

† Minimum base rate.  
\* 7 days, 14 days, 28 days, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, 36 months, 48 months, 60 months, 72 months, 84 months, 96 months, 108 months, 120 months, 132 months, 144 months, 156 months, 168 months, 180 months, 192 months, 204 months, 216 months, 228 months, 240 months, 252 months, 264 months, 276 months, 288 months, 300 months, 312 months, 324 months, 336 months, 348 months, 360 months, 372 months, 384 months, 396 months, 408 months, 420 months, 432 months, 444 months, 456 months, 468 months, 480 months, 492 months, 504 months, 516 months, 528 months, 540 months, 552 months, 564 months, 576 months, 588 months, 600 months, 612 months, 624 months, 636 months, 648 months, 660 months, 672 months, 684 months, 696 months, 708 months, 720 months, 732 months, 744 months, 756 months, 768 months, 780 months, 792 months, 804 months, 816 months, 828 months, 840 months, 852 months, 864 months, 876 months, 888 months, 900 months, 912 months, 924 months, 936 months, 948 months, 960 months, 972 months, 984 months, 996 months, 1008 months, 1020 months, 1032 months, 1044 months, 1056 months, 1068 months, 1080 months, 1092 months, 1104 months, 1116 months, 1128 months, 1140 months, 1152 months, 1164 months, 1176 months, 1188 months, 1200 months, 1212 months, 1224 months, 1236 months, 1248 months, 1260 months, 1272 months, 1284 months, 1296 months, 1308 months, 1320 months, 1332 months, 1344 months, 1356 months, 1368 months, 1380 months, 1392 months, 1404 months, 1416 months, 1428 months, 1440 months, 1452 months, 1464 months, 1476 months, 1488 months, 1500 months, 1512 months, 1524 months, 1536 months, 1548 months, 1560 months, 1572 months, 1584 months, 1596 months, 1608 months, 1620 months, 1632 months, 1644 months, 1656 months, 1668 months, 1680 months, 1692 months, 1704 months, 1716 months, 1728 months, 1740 months, 1752 months, 1764 months, 1776 months, 1788 months, 1800 months, 1812 months, 1824 months, 1836 months, 1848 months, 1860 months, 1872 months, 1884 months, 1896 months, 1908 months, 1920 months, 1932 months, 1944 months, 1956 months, 1968 months, 1980 months, 1992 months, 2004 months, 2016 months, 2028 months, 2040 months, 2052 months, 2064 months, 2076 months, 2088 months, 2100 months, 2112 months, 2124 months, 2136 months, 2148 months, 2160 months, 2172 months, 2184 months, 2196 months, 2208 months, 2220 months, 2232 months, 2244 months, 2256 months, 2268 months, 2280 months, 2292 months, 2304 months, 2316 months, 2328 months, 2340 months, 2352 months, 2364 months, 2376 months, 2388 months, 2400 months, 2412 months, 2424 months, 2436 months, 2448 months, 2460 months, 2472 months, 2484 months, 2496 months, 2508 months, 2520 months, 2532 months, 2544 months, 2556 months, 2568 months, 2580 months, 2592 months, 2604 months, 2616 months, 2628 months, 2640 months, 2652 months, 2664 months, 2676 months, 2688 months, 2700 months, 2712 months, 2724 months, 2736 months, 2748 months, 2760 months, 2772 months, 2784 months, 2796 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months, 9276 months, 9288 months, 9300 months, 9312 months, 9324 months, 9336 months, 9348 months, 9360 months, 9372 months, 9384 months, 9396 months, 9408 months, 9420 months, 9432 months, 9444 months, 9456 months, 9468 months, 9480 months, 9492 months, 9504 months, 9516 months, 9528 months, 9540 months, 9552 months, 9564 months, 9576 months, 9588 months, 9600 months, 9612 months, 9624 months, 9636 months, 9648 months, 9660 months, 9672 months, 9684 months, 9696 months, 9708 months, 9720 months, 9732 months, 9744 months, 9756 months, 9768 months, 9780 months, 9792 months, 9804 months, 9816 months, 9828 months, 9840 months, 9852 months, 9864 months, 9876 months, 9888 months, 9900 months, 9912 months, 9924 months, 9936 months, 9948 months, 9960 months, 9972 months, 9984 months, 9996 months, 10000 months.

## Computer link for research

Paris (AFP) - Three leading European computer groups, the French Bull Company, British ICL and West German Siemens, have linked, to set up a joint research centre, the Bull Company said yesterday.

The centre, due to begin work early next year, will research in the field of artificial intelligence which should enable computers to participate in decision making with the help of non-numerical information.

The three companies will carry out long-term research with a view to products for manufacture in about 1990 or 1995, but this will not result in the manufacture of joint equipment.

The centre is to be sited in South Bavaria in Germany, and results of the research will belong to the three companies which will be free to exploit the findings.

The three companies will continue with their own independent research programmes.

## Charterhouse profit increases by 18.5%

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Charterhouse Group, the investment and merchant banking company, has pushed up half-year profits by 18.5 per cent to £11.6m before tax on the back of a strong performance from its development capital division.

Development capital benefited from further realizations in the United States where Charterhouse sold more shares in two successful investments, Dreyer Grand Ice Cream and Peco Pharmaceutical Services.

Combined with a good result in the United Kingdom, France and Canada, this division improved profits before interest from £4.3m to £9.38m in the six months to June 30.

The merchant bank also reported higher profits after transfers to secret reserves - up from £2.62m to £3.10m.

Banking and development capital between them more than made up for a flat performance from the rest of the group and the absence of profits from Charterhouse Petroleum where the group's stake has been further reduced from 19.5 to 12.5 per cent.

The group now only includes Charterhouse Petroleum dividends into its profits.

The manufacturing division made virtually unchanged profits of £3.09m after a sharp downturn at Newage Engineers, whose overseas markets for alternators in Africa and the Middle East have turned sour.

Profits from services fell from £2.39m to £1.76m reflecting the disappointing first half from Spring Grove, the towel rental company.

Helped by a much lower tax charge, earnings per share have risen by 55 per cent to 4.56p but the half-year dividend is being raised by only 5.2 per cent to 2.025p. Mr John Hyde, chief executive, said the group wanted the dividend to be covered twice by profits. Last year the dividend was covered 1.8 times.

Charterhouse had a strong second half in 1982 so although profits in the first half of 1983 are £1.8m ahead, it remains cautious about the whole of this year, forecasting profits at least as good as 1982.

## COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL	
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# Air freight

Airlines are expressing rising confidence in the growing business of delivering freight cargoes. Arthur Reed reports

The growth of the world air freight industry, which traditionally ran at around ten per cent a year, has suffered along with the rest of the airline business from the effects of the economic recession, but now shows signs of a revival as international trade begins to pick up.

According to International Air Transport Association figures, this sector of civil aviation grew by 9.8 per cent in 1978 over 1977, by 8 per cent in 1979, by 4 per cent in 1980, by 5.1 per cent in 1981, and by only 1.1 per cent last year. Although it is too early at present to paint a complete forecast picture for 1983, individual airlines are expressing rising confidence.

British Airways, for instance, has revised the estimate of its income from air freight during the financial year 1983-84 upwards by £15m to £183m, assessing that £10m of the increase will come from improved trading conditions, and the remainder from greater internal efficiency.

The airline industry is looking to a greater contribution than in the past from freight, because its overall economic outlook remains gloomy, whether or not the recession ends. The industry has indulged in a great amount of belt-tightening, with wholesale lay-offs of staff and grounding of aircraft (one estimate is that 10 per cent of the total fleet is up for sale at present), but is still prey to forces over which it can exercise little or no control.

These include illegal discounting of both passenger fares and cargo rates, estimated to be costing the industry up to £600m a year in lost income, blocked or delayed transfers of an estimated £400m worth of earnings in both the passenger and freight sectors belonging to 40 airlines by 30 countries, mainly in Africa, rising airport landing and navigation charges, and above all charges for servicing loans, mainly for new aircraft, what Mr Kurt Hamerskjöld, director general of the International Air Transport Association, referred to recently as, "the interest mountain."

Were it not for this mountain, the world's airlines could expect to move back into profitability.

next year by some £300m, but once interest charges of £1,225m are met, there will be a deficit of just under £1,000m.

The scope for widening the role of air freight as a contributor to the well-being of airlines remains enormous, for although it carries up to 16 per cent annually of United Kingdom trade in value terms - Heathrow was the "richest" airport in Britain in 1982, with exports and imports worth £13,540m, with Dover second - in volume it amounts to only 0.2 per cent.

This is obviously because carriage by air does not lend itself to bulk cargo, such as coal, iron ore, steel, which will always travel surface, but also because many shippers still see air freight as an "emergency only" method of transport for their goods.

Even with this discounting, which is prevalent in certain areas of the world, and particularly the Far East, and a freeze on cargo rates because there is too much aircraft capacity chasing too few goods, air freight rates remain generally higher than surface transport, but can be eased out when the arguments in favour of air cargo are applied - shorter warehouse time, lower breakage and pilferage rates, less packing, smaller insurance premiums, and above all, quicker deliveries.

But shippers remain slow to change, as evidenced by Lufthansa, the West German airline, which is among the biggest air cargo carriers in the world, which carries 25,000 tons of cargo between Germany and the United States each year, a total equivalent to the load carried by just one container ship. Other airlines transport a further 50,000 tons of freight annually between Germany and the US - equivalent to two further such ships.

Taking away just one per cent of the world-wide sea-freight business would enable the airlines to double their cargo business, it is estimated, and although the greatest proportion of sea traffic is the sort of bulk goods which will never travel by air, sea does transport piece goods which would be ideal for carriage by air.

But while the airlines are attacking the traditional seaborne trade, they in their turn are being threatened by another form of surface carrier, the long-distance heavy truck. Increases in axle weights, and higher speeds, particularly in Europe, are enabling the operators of such vehicles to offer expeditions overnight deliveries at very competitive rates, and some airlines, scenting danger to their own traffic, have signed cooperative deals with the trucking firms.

One European airline president, Jan Carlzon, of Scandinavian Airlines System, sees the time when very little freight will be carried by air on short-haul services, and the space which it now occupies in the underfloor holds will be utilised to give more room for passengers' baggage. Mr Carlzon has asked manufacturers to design him a new airliner along these lines.

But although beset on many sides, those who run the airlines' air-freight business still take an optimistic view of the future. Modern technology has come to their aid in recent years, with new



Cargo handling at Gatwick: revenue from freight is improving

generations of wide-bodied airliners and the containerized freight which they can swallow offering advantages of efficiency unimaginable when hosts of small parcels had to be piled in the holds of smaller, narrow-bodied planes.

Ironically, the small parcel business is now coming back strongly, with the liberalization of private post offices and courier services, particularly in Britain, but many of these parcels are hurried through by the couriers themselves, and the opportunities for increased revenues are as yet only touched by the airlines.

New technology in the form of computers which keep track of cargo items, wherever in the world they may be, which help to speed the customs process at airports, and which issue and check waybills, is also helping to make air cargo more competitive with its rival forms of transport, while keeping costs down.

Brokers and consolidators are today working far more closely with the airlines than in the past, and at some airports are linked into the computerized tracking

systems which are operated by the airlines and the customs authorities. Those running the industry are encouraged by this trend, and also by the trend in manufacturing towards high-tech goods, such as videos, stereos, computers, and television sets, which lend themselves ideally to carriage by air.

Further encouragement is gained from the growth of multinational companies, with factories in different areas of the world needing to exchange urgently parts and semi-finished products.

Air freight has an important role to play in the airline industry's painful struggle towards recovery, but the danger is that airline managements will treat it as has happened in the past, as a poor relation, starving it of capital and resources in their economy drives, and favouring the more glamorous passenger side of their business. The longer that cargo remains unfashionable, the longer it will take the airlines to move back into the black once more.

As a result of all these trends, air freight is today the biggest bargain for the customer than it has ever been, with some rates lower than they were 20 years ago. In 1960, for instance, the general rate for shipments of 45kg and more between Frankfurt and New York was DM 13.40 per kilo, and is DM 13.20 today. Special bulk rates in 1960 worked out at DM 5.10 per kilo, and are DM 3.20 today, and with a 1,000 ton annual contract can drop to DM 2 and even lower.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has mounted a campaign called "fare deal" in which geographical groups of airlines agree among themselves not to discount, and have the power to levy fines against any of their number which transgress.

Across the North Atlantic, one of the world's busiest air-freight routes, there is so much spare capacity in the underfloor holds of wide-bodied passenger aircraft in the new generation of "combi" airliners where passengers and freight are carried on the main deck, and on board all-freight aircraft like the Boeing 747F and the DC-8F, that rates have been pushed down so low as to make under-the-counter cuts unrealistic.

According to Peter Campbell, marketing manager of MSAS, one of the world's biggest air-freight forwarders, handling 800,000 shipments and 55,000 tons of freight in an average year, the North Atlantic experienced a 5 per cent market decline in the first quarter of 1983 compared with the same period, last year. Westbound freight traffic was growing, while eastbound declined because of a strong dollar against a weak pound. The resulting falling-off of American exports meant that eastbound flights were operating with a "significant overcapacity" of cargo space.

In an attempt to solve this problem, the airlines have reduced their capacity on the North Atlantic, and some have stood down their all-freight aircraft. British Airways sold its fleet of this type, reducing its total cargo capacity by 15 per cent at a stroke, and an American recently completed the phasing-out of its

## Are the days of discounting finally numbered?

Discounting - the offering of cargo rates or passenger fares at below those agreed between airlines and governments - is a by-product of the world business recession, and is a constant drain on the airline industry's revenues. But a concerted effort recently by the industry does appear to be lessening the problem, and the airlines' hope is that with the ending of the recession it will go away for good.

There are, of course, certain areas of the world, like the Middle East and the Far East, where bargaining is a way of life, and where discounting will never completely end. The Arab Air Carriers' Association (AACO) is taking a stern line among its members, and has gone a long way towards stamping it out in their area, but is finding it more difficult to legislate against foreign carriers who fly through the Middle East with cut-rate goods.

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747F fleet when it sold its last freighter to Japan Air Lines for £27m. Specialist airlines such as Flying Tigers of the United States, with more than 30 all-freight airliners, continue to ply this blue-ribbon, but uneconomic route, making its profits on other sections of its world network such as the Pacific basin, where higher cargo rates are holding firm.

Devaluation in the United States, the policy introduced by President Carter under which airlines could fly virtually where, and at what fares they liked, has worsened the over-capacity problem on the North Atlantic. The policy has recently spread to Britain, where the Civil Aviation Authority is now taking a more liberal line on the licensing of air routes than in the past, although it has made no great impact so far in Europe.

As a result of all these trends, air freight is today the biggest bargain for the customer than it has ever been, with some rates lower than they were 20 years ago. In 1960, for instance, the general rate for shipments of 45kg and more between Frankfurt and New York was DM 13.40 per kilo, and is DM 13.20 today. Special bulk rates in 1960 worked out at DM 5.10 per kilo, and are DM 3.20 today, and with a 1,000 ton annual contract can drop to DM 2 and even lower.

### A break from fixed tariffs

In such a competitive environment with, on the North Atlantic, as many as 40 airlines chasing the limited amount of freight which is available from Europe to the United States and vice versa, aggressive and innovative strategies and pricings have emerged among this sector of the airline industry, which has never been noted for its reticence in the market place.

Many of the world's aviation areas have now broken away from the traditional idea that tariffs should be fixed by IATA, and then reviewed only on an annual basis, or at even longer intervals. Instead, airlines now go to governments with their "instant" rate proposals, expecting, and often obtaining, rubber-stamp authority. In this buyer's market, short-term experimental offers are commonplace, and there is a growing list of specific commodity and freight-all-kinds (FAK) rates tied in to speed and quality of service, all of which tax the knowledge of even the most expert agent, shipper, forwarder and consolidator.

Door-to-door has always been the boast of the air-cargo business, but now this service is being

extended to "desk-to-desk", with a rising tide of small-parcel and courier services. Even the man in the street can play, with the ability to walk into any of the larger post offices in Britain with a packet of computer print-outs, or similar documents, and by using datapost - for a not-inconsiderable sum - expect it to be in the office of a colleague or a customer 3,000 miles away in the United States the following day.

British Airways will accept small parcels for delivery to major provincial centres in Britain at its shuttle check-in counters, and is only prevented from expanding the service to European cities by the inevitable problems posed by customs clearances.

British Airways, which in the 1982-83 financial year carried 161,000 tons of cargo on its passenger aircraft, has also had considerable success in recent months with a "guaranteed exports" scheme in which the airline promises shippers their money back if their goods miss the flights on which they are booked to North America, Hong Kong and South Africa.

BA and all other world airlines are constantly exploring new markets, and are prepared to manufacture competitive new tariffs once they are found. Currently, exotic fruits and vegetables are providing the industry with a growing proportion of their carryings (in BA's case it amounts to 18 per cent of all cargo) as the diet fad spreads through the Western world, and immigrants from Third-World countries demand the familiar foods of their homelands.

The shipping of greengrocery, flowers, chilled meats, animals on the hoof for breeding or for food, has now become routine, but the problem for the air-freight marketers remains to convince shippers that the service which they offer should be an everyday one for other classifications of goods, and not only used in exceptional cases.

Because of rapidly-rising costs of aerospace production, countries all over the world are joining together to develop and produce new aircraft types. Britain, France, West Germany, Belgium, Spain and Holland are linked in the production of the A300 and A310 European airliners, while Spain and Indonesia, France and Italy and Sweden and the United States are each collaborating on new types of commuter airliners.

All require rapid freight links with their partners, and the cargo-carrying airlines are coming into their own with what they hope will be a lucrative and long-term new form of business.

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## NEW TECHNOLOGY

## The air-road battle to get there quicker

Greater use of technology - notably in the field of computerised documentation processing - holds the key to continuing development of the international air cargo industry.

Now many of the traditional advantages inherent in air freight are being increasingly eroded by competition from road transport, particularly in short-haul cargo sectors.

Even urgent freight moving between the UK and the Continent now tends to be transported by road which can offer faster overall door-to-door transit times than air, as well as lower rates.

The major problem for the air cargo industry is the time freight spends sitting on the ground both before and after actually flying. A recent report by IATA (International Air Transport Association), for instance, revealed that overall air freight spends 92 per cent of its total transportation period on the ground and only 22 per cent of the same period actually in motion.

Much of this waiting time results from delays in customs and documentation clearance. To counter this, airport authorities, airlines, freight forwarders and customs have been steadily developing improved computerised documentation processing systems.

The world leader is almost certainly the ACP80 (Air Cargo Processing in the 80s) system at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports and recently extended to take in Manchester. Basically, it

helps streamline imports clearance through customs, speed the despatch of exports and enables users to keep track of consignments from their own premises.

Developed jointly by London's air cargo community and the National Data Processing Service, the commercial computing arm of British Telecom, ACP80 was implemented in London towards the end of 1981. It effectively replaced the successful LACES (London Airport Cargo Electronic Data Processing Scheme) system which had handled imports clearance at Heathrow since 1971 and Gatwick from 1979.

At the heart of the new system is the ACP80 bureau, run on ICL computers at British Telecom's major computer centre in Harmondsworth. The bureau is operated by NDPS and its tasks include:

- Handling inventory control of imports and exports for 35 airlines and transit shed operators
- Providing a link to the internal computer systems operated by six of the world's major airlines (British Airways, Transworld Airlines, Pan American, KLM, Alitalia and Flying Tigers)
- Allowing airlines and agents to report export consignments to HM Customs and Excise
- Providing access to DEPS (Customs Departmental Entry Processing System)
- Generating export and import figures for inclusion in national trade statistics

Customs, agents and the airlines and cargo shed operators served by the bureau

gain access to ACP80 computers through terminals in their offices. These visual display units have high-speed printers attached which reproduce computer information on papers as required.

ACP80 uses British Telecom's packet switched data service (PSS) in which data is sent electronically in separate small blocks or packages, a system said to be simpler and more efficient than sending information in one long stream.

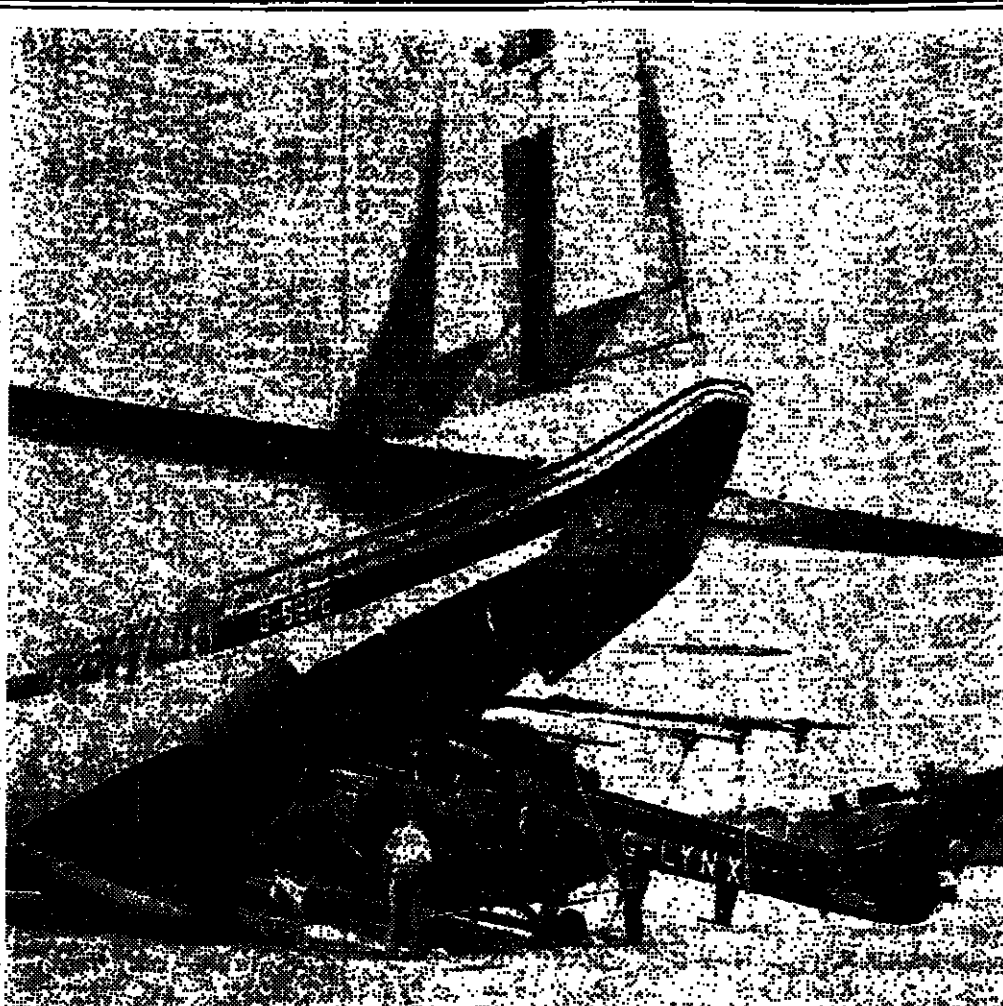
"This makes it possible for the ACP80 computers to 'talk' easily and quickly with the base computers of the six major airlines."

The present contract term for ACP80 with NDPS runs to September 1986, with an option for another five years.

Among the possibilities are developments which would allow freight forwarders to interface their own in-house computers with ACP80.

Perhaps more likely is the development of ACP80-type systems at other airports around the world. The United States, Hong Kong and a number of other countries have shown considerable interest in the concept.

While ACP80 is the single most important recent development in the field of air cargo computerisation, it has spread through many other areas of the industry's operations. Numerous freight forwarders and airlines have established or are in the process of establishing their own in-house systems.



Leading international freight forwarder McGregor Sea & Air Services (MSAS), for instance, has developed a computerised document production system called UNITEL which in addition to producing documents from freight booking forms and house airwaybills through to customs requirements, also provides an international information flow on freight movements.

Another UK freight forwarder, D C Andrews Ballinayne, has already developed an in-house computer system, DECAB, which allows major customer companies to access direct via their own terminals.

Airlines, too, have been developing their own computerised documentation and cargo reservation systems under a variety of different names. Air Canada, for

instance, has ACCESS (Air Canada Cargo Enquiry System and Service) to give shippers and agents a fast response to enquiries and bookings, while the Hong Kong-based airline Cathay Pacific recently announced it is to press ahead with the development of a fully computerised cargo system to be known as CLUBIC (Cathay Unifac Booking and Information for Cargo).

## Nothing too large: a Westland Lynx helicopter is 'swallowed' by a Short Belfast freighter at Stansted

Computerisation apart, the air cargo industry has also been using modern technology to improve loading and transportation procedures.

The Boeing aircraft manufacturing company, for example, plans to introduce a system called the Belt Transport Loader (BTL) into the operation of B757 standard body aircraft by 1984. The system will be an extension of current belt loaders in common use and is designed to speed cargo loading and reduce the manpower required - Boeing claims it should allow 12,000 lbs of cargo to be loaded by one man in eight minutes.

Basically, the system will comprise five elements - the unit load, ground transport, the belt loader itself, an on-board belt conveyor and a control system.

The unit loads involved will take a number of forms suitable for automatic loading, including standard industrial pallets on a 40-inch x 48-inch or 45-inch x 45-inch base; intermodal modules on a 45-inch x 58-inch base; and various air cargo containers.

Airlines have also been looking at ways of developing unit load technology to boost air cargo traffic. In this context, British Airways has recently been looking at the idea of introducing "winged" pallets on its wide-bodied aircraft such as B747s and TriStars, a concept already in use with the Israeli national carrier El Al.

Winged pallets are basically normal pallets which have had two of their sides let out on hinges to increase their capacity by up to 20 per cent. Since cube rather than weight tends to be the

limiting factor as far as cargo loads on passenger aircraft are concerned, such an increase in capacity could be quite significant in revenue terms.

Other airlines have been looking at the development of special containers to cater for specific traffic. The world's largest all-cargo carrier, Flying Tigers, for example, now has a fleet of special containers known as GOH (Garment on Hangars) containers to carry consignments from major fashion design centres around the world. The same airline has also recently introduced a new type of in-flight horse stall which can be converted into a standard air freight container in five minutes.

"By sliding out or folding back hinged panels, the 'AirStable' can be changed into an ordinary freight container, capable of carrying general cargo, allowing the airline to use the equipment to carry a full revenue load of freight when not being used to transport bloodstock," said a Flying Tigers spokesman.

Still on the subject of containers and ULDs (unit load devices), British Aerospace earlier this year launched a new multi-million pound container examination system (CES) designed to allow customs authorities to examine such units without unloading/unpacking or causing damage.

The examination is by means of X-rays and spectrographic analysis in a purpose-built facility. The X-rays show the contents for viewing on closed circuit television while an air sample is taken for spectrographic analysis which would reveal any contraband such as alcohol, drugs or explosives.

If introduced on a large scale, the CES operation could speed up the handling and clearance of containers.

Phillip Hastings

## CARGO CENTRES

## Keeping track of the goods

Old hands at British Airways who were around in the late 1960s when BEA and BOAC, now incorporated into BA, opened automated air freight centres at London's Heathrow airport, still recall with alarm the days when customers pounded the counters and demanded consignments which had apparently been swallowed by the computer for ever. Angry scenes which developed were being repeated throughout the industry at that time as airlines attempted to go too far too fast with automation, envisaging the day when machines would take over from people.

The lesson was quickly learned, although at vast expense, that air freight with its parcels of all sizes and awkward shapes, its high and low priorities, and its often highly-perishable nature, does not lend itself naturally to automatic handling.

Soon, much of the expensive stacking and storing machinery was being taken out to be replaced by muscle power, and a visit to the British Airways cargo centre at Heathrow today will quickly establish that one of the most important pieces of equipment for shifting air freight about the place is the forklift truck - although computers give the forklift their instructions, and the loading of containers is automated.

This opened in early 1982 after six years of planning followed by three and a half years of building, and although not without its initial snags, now handles with a high degree of automation some 400,000 tons of freight annually.

Some airlines have persevered to make automatic cargo handling work, one of the foremost being the West German carrier Lufthansa which, however, waited until it saw the lessons learned by others before investing the equivalent of £60m in the development of a new cargo centre at Frankfurt international airport.

Two computers lie at the heart of the Lufthansa terminal, one the existing main terminal of the airline, which accommodates all the paper work of planning, air cargo, and a second, installed specially to bring forward the goods which are stored in the warehouse. These are stored in hundreds of small trucks which run about the shed, at the command of the computer, on tracks at ceiling level. When not required, the trucks with their loads are stored in a five-storey high stacking area from which they are automatically retrieved by one of ten ETVs elevating transfer vehicles.

Lufthansa engineers designed the freight centre, and in doing so planned for things to go wrong. Each ETV, although commanded by computer, has a cab for a driver, while each of the small trucks, as well as having a "magic eye" code on its side which can be read by computer, also has a number which can be read by the human eye if the automatic system breaks down.

But while some airlines, like BA, rely on the forklift and others like Lufthansa, rely on robotics to move freight on the ground,

almost all of them agree that a high degree of computerisation is vital to document, marshal it, and to keep track of it across the world's air routes.

KLM, the Dutch airline, uses a system called Cargoal, based on a concept developed by the Italian national airline, Alitalia, and now used by a number of carriers all over the world. Data on shipments and flights is entered directly into a central memory bank, which then produces all the necessary shipping documents and manifests, and indicates when each piece of freight should be brought forward from store ready for loading on to the aircraft.

Some 60 KLM stations all over the world are linked into Cargoal at Amsterdam so that instant freight space reservations can be made from thousands of miles away through the tapping of a few keys on a visual display unit.

Cargoal truly comes into its own in Holland, where the export of flowers and plants by air is big business. KLM has a cargo office in the flower auction building in Aalsmeer, and the containers and pallets destined for the aircraft are loaded there before being taken to Schiphol airport by truck.

The computer is given information about the contents of each container, which it then flashes to each destination airport so that there is no delay in local distribution.

Airlines and the customs authorities at Heathrow claim that their computerised systems are even more efficient than that of the Dutch, and British Airways is currently seeking to sell parts of its system, now connected to 79 of its 132 stations world-wide, to other airlines through the International Air Transport Association.

Airlines and cargo agents at Heathrow are on a community computer, and this reports each landing of cargo to customs and excise, whose own computerised system, ACP80 can be queried for time of clearance and other essential information.

Now, most goods at Heathrow are cleared through customs within hours. Not many years ago, the "dwell time" awaiting official clearance could be anything up to five days.

The advantages of such expeditious handling are many. They include making London more popular as a European transshipment port, so adding to Britain's invisible earnings and to the airline's revenues, keeping British industry moving without delays while parts or materials are awaited and reducing the amount of space at the airport required by the airlines and their agents for storing goods.

Heathrow handles around half a million tons of freight each year, while Gatwick, the second London airport, deals with 125,000 tons. It would seem sensible, therefore, to transfer some of this traffic, but in spite of its overcrowded nature - Heathrow remains the honey-pot for the world's airlines.

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RUGBY UNION

# England's wooden spoon can feed fires of revival

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Let us assume, for administrative convenience as it were, that 1983-84 will be a normal season; that England will do championship business with Wales, Scotland and Ireland; that the French will add their quota of *avril* and that the disparate talents of Zimbabwe, Canada, Japan and New Zealand will add a novelty of approach from which all may benefit.

We will ignore the possibility of a professional tournament for the present. But we cannot ignore the fact that, during the summer, there has been a disappointing tour by the British Lions. In good years the Lions can set a pattern for the home countries to follow: the 1971 team gave us overlap play and increased our awareness of forward technicalities. The 1974 Lions built on that forward base, added supremacy at half back and a ruthlessness not previously associated with British sides.

The last three tours have given us nothing and 1983 could not even produce the hard-luck stories of 1977 and 1980. It is therefore incumbent upon home countries to give an indication during the coming season that they are prepared to learn from the virtues manifested by New Zealand this summer, virtues primarily of planning.

The structure of the game in Ireland and Scotland is under review in any case; geography has always been the greatest ally of the Welsh, though they have seldom seen completion of the tour. England, which has the greatest playing strength and so, potentially, the best side?

The point was made to me shortly after the 1983 Lions tour ended that

anyone looking for the best backs in Britain and Ireland would probably not make for Oxford University, Oriel, Instonville, Dolphin, Kelso, Old Belvedere and Jed-Forest.

Those are the clubs who - so disconcerted intended - provided the backbone of the second international against New Zealand in Wellington last June. If I were looking for exciting back play, even in these far from idyllic days, I would take myself to Llanelli, Swansea or Cardiff, Bath or Bristol or Leicester. You cannot expect backs who play in the second international to be called the second grade of British rugby suddenly to become a match for the world's best, even during the course of a tour.

England could show the way. After the disappointments of last season, when they finished as wooden spoonists, they can hardly go anywhere but up. They have a new selection panel, a new coach and will be looking at new players.

Whether they will be able to advance as far as they should against a system which rates the county championship higher than either a divisional championship or a club league is problematical, but a 1983-84 season which contained a hugely successful John Player Cup final and at under-23, under-18 and under-16 schools levels suggests that not all is sackcloth and ashes.

The visit of the New Zealanders even gives the divisions first-rate opposition against whom to range themselves.

At least Richard Greenwood, England's coach, does not have the albatross of the 1980 grand slam hanging over him. It took England several tortuous years to manufacture the 1980 side and Mike Davis inherited it in his first season as

coach - which, in a sense, was his misfortune because, having started his senior coaching career thus, he could only go downhill thereafter.

Greenwood, too, can probably sympathize with the puzzle expressed by senior England players last season when they saw Michael Stemp dropped from the left wing with no ready-made replacement available and then found the selectors prepared to execute a smart about-turn by dropping both half backs in mid-season.

During the summer, Greenwood toured the four English divisions, introducing himself to players and stressing the need for greater fitness from international aspirants. He is also, as the under-23 squad have discovered over the last three years, keen to leave decision-making in the hands of the players. It is to be hoped that his fellow selectors will recognize that the coach is the man in overall charge of preparations for championship games and that they will give him the players he wants.

It is in matters of selection that the All Blacks excel. Their playing structure all the way down insists that they should. A New Zealand player will be involved in some 28 games for his club during the season, of which all but a handful are league games. The better players will receive additional coaching at provincial level and will be watched in Ranfurly Shield games, as junior All Blacks, in Maori representative teams and in trials before winning their All Black cap.

Some players in Britain, particularly in England and Wales, are expected still to play between 45 and 50 games for their clubs, or if not for their clubs, for their county, area or country, plus the odd exhibition game or charity event to bump up



Greenwood stressed fitness

the total. This is nothing new. The Mailbox Report expressed the hope 10 years ago that playing commitments could be decreased. So much for progress.

Nevertheless, and despite the deficiencies of the game's structure in England, the talent exists for a revival. Wales, you may be sure, will build on last season's new look side, buoyed up by the knowledge that it was three Welshmen who would have been key figures for the Lions but for the injuries which put Jeff Squire, Ian Stephens and Terry Holmes on an early flight home.

Wales and Scotland are coached by backs, John Bevan and Colin Fother, both former international stand-off halves, which may be relevant if we are to see some sign of British back play returning to former glories. In that respect it is pertinent that four of England's six technical administrators were backs.

Ireland will be coached by Bill McGuire, a former international stand-off half, and Paul Barber, one of the mainstays in defence, for whom this is a last chance of going to the Olympic Games (Sydney Friskin writes). They were in the 1980 team which withdrew from the Moscow Olympics in protest against the Soviet Union's involvement in Afghanistan.

Both players, along with Norman Hughes, the England captain, have travelled a long and arduous road to fulfil their ambition of playing in the games. They need to have the final squad of 16, which will play in the 10-Nation invitation tournament in Hong Kong from December 8 to 18, in the hope of impressing the international authorities.

The first of four training weekends at Blenheim Abbey from September 30 to October 2.

## Low morale could hinder the British

From Jim Rallison, Duisburg, West Germany

Four of the 12 British crews in the world championships remain to contest the semi-final rounds today on the Wedau course here. The morale in the British team is far from high, but the problems should have been resolved at home before competitors were faced with the rigours of international rowing. A finalist could provide inspiration before next year's Olympic Games, but Britain will be hard pressed to produce one.

The single sculler, Beryl Mitchell, meets the Soviet Union's world champion, Kina Fetisova, and the talented East German youngster, Jutta Hampel. Mitchell will be facing an anxious place also at Virginia Gilder, of the United States, on the inside lane.

The men's heavyweight coxed four will hardly complain about their draw, which brings them into conflict with Italy, Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, Hungary and West Germany. In the first semi-final will be the former world champion, East Germany's Hans-Joachim Mauck, and the United States should bring the course alive.

The British men's lightweight coxed four meet three nations who are still unbeaten, the Republic of Ireland, the Netherlands, and the Soviet Union. The Austrian search of his third world title.

### FOOTBALL

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Grenoble 1361. Le Mans 1362. Nancy 1363. Orléans 1364. Sedan 1365. Valenciennes 1366. Troyes 1367. Metz 1368. Caen











# Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

## Uno measures up to official claims

A growing number of motor industry executives are now prepared to admit that official consumption figures are a bit of a farce. Although the test standards are set by the Department of Transport, they are actually obtained on the manufacturers' indoor "rolling road". A combination of a well-tuned driver and a selected power unit ensure that the resulting miles per gallon are infinitely better than are achieved in less artificial conditions.

Because all manufacturers use the same tactics, the results do at least mean that some sort of comparison can be made and, for that reason, are worth recording. Thus it is a red letter day when a motoring journalist finds a car that reproduces laboratory figures on the road.

Most readers will be aware that Fiat is making a big effort to restore its image with a whole new range of cars. The most important by far is the Uno, the replacement for the most successful 127.

The Uno 45 Super ES is the almost obligatory entry-level version with specially adapted 900cc engine and wide ratio five-speed gearbox.

The day I took delivery of the 45 ES coincided with a hurried change of plans requiring two fast journeys, one by minor roads travelling west to east by lots of congested town traffic and the other almost entirely by motorway. At no time was I attempting to squeeze a few more miles per gallon. On the contrary I pushed the long-legged little car very hard whenever conditions permitted.

It is easy to imagine my surprise when the consumption for 580 miles

of this sort of punishment worked out at approximately 50 miles per gallon. Brim to brim tank tests are not totally accurate, but they are a deal more indicative of true consumption than so-called official figures.

As for the rest of the car's capabilities, I found it to be reasonably flexible despite its very high gearing and the compression ratio raised to 9.7/1. This ability to cope with an engine and transmission combination which is frequently frustrating is almost certainly due to the car's very light construction. The three-door version used on the 45 ES weighs only 1,343 lb.

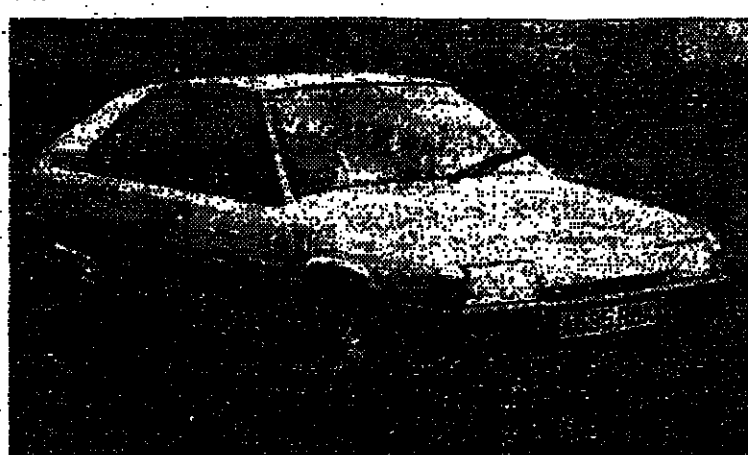
### Vital statistics:

Model Fiat Uno 45 Super ES  
Price £3,390  
Engine 900cc four cylinder  
Official consumption urban 44.1 mpg, 58 mph 65.7 mpg and 75 mph 48.7 mpg.  
Performance: maximum speed 87 mph (fourth gear), 0-62 mph 17.5 seconds.  
Length 11ft 11ins  
Insurance group one

one of the many excellent sound deadening kits on the market.

Another bonus point in the recent spell of fine weather is the lack of excessive wind noise with the driver's window open. This is one of the lesser known spinoffs from the increasing emphasis on clean smooth designs to improve aerodynamics and fuel consumption.

At the same time Fiat has reduced by 35 per cent the number of body



Citroen BX: cheaper servicing costs

panels and hence also the number of welds compared with the 127. This makes for faster cheaper production by robots, but also poses a problem of bigger sheets of metal giving a tinny sound to the door and tailgate closure. The Uno is a real offender here and would benefit from the addition of

### Citroen's Challenge:

The Citroen BX is the most significant new model to come from this builder of beautifully engineered but complicated cars since it was acquired by Peugeot. At the time of its launch in France nearly a year ago, great play was made of the BX's role as the first Citroen designed for easy production and to the specific requirements of the salesman.

Not to be outdone by their apparent detractors, the once all powerful engineers pointed to the most extensive use of plastics yet seen in any mass-produced car. The bonnet, tailgate, fuel tank, wheel arch mouldings, roof panel-gutters, bumpers, headlamps and sideights are all made from combinations of plastic and reinforced fibre.

That was nearly a year ago and now that BX is being produced in sufficient numbers to tackle overseas markets, Britain has just received its first consignment. In the meantime, however, the emphasis on the car's attractions have changed. At the specific request of Citroen's UK marketing men, the publicists are beating the drum about BX's cost of ownership and remarkable reduction in servicing and repair costs.

Considering the high maintenance costs long associated with Citroen

models, that should not be difficult to do. But, Citroen goes further and makes direct cost comparisons with Ford's Sierra and BSA's Maestro.

It quotes servicing times which are almost half those of Sierra and marginally better than the Maestro's. It also lists 16 most used part prices which, it claims, show that BX part prices are very competitive.

All this points to one thing: Citroen at long last believes it has a car cheap enough to appeal to company and fleet buyers. If that is so, it could transform Citroen's image in this country and increase its market share of 1.6 per cent to well over 2 per cent. About 5000 BX's are earmarked for Britain in the next three months.

I saw recently a most impressive demonstration of the detailed improvements made to facilitate quick cheap maintenance. Armed only with a small pocket screwdriver which was used mainly to release hidden spring clips, a salesman stripped the whole of the fascia, removed the headlamps and tail clusters and other parts too numerous to list here. And all in minutes. It seemed that everything removable had been designed on a modular basis rather like a set of Lego building bricks.

The removal of exterior fittings is so easy that there is already concern about the possible effect of DIY enthusiasts making late-night raids on BX's parked in the street.

Five versions are being imported with two engine sizes; the 1360cc unit already in use in other Peugeot and Talbot models, and a brand new light alloy 1580cc engine. Prices start at £4,790 rising to £6,100 for the top-of-the-range BX 16TRs.

## Rolls-Royce and Bentley Authorised Dealers and Distributors

### JACK BARCLAY LIMITED

1983 (May) BENTLEY MULSANE TURBO. Acrylic White with Green leather upholstery and Green leather top roll and knee roll. Black lacquered woodwork. 5,000 miles... £58,500  
1982 (May) ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT. Georgian Silver with Red leather upholstery, 17,000 miles... £39,500  
1981 (Apr) ROLLS-ROYCE CORNICHE SALOON. Oxford Blue with a Dark Blue Everflex roof and Dark Blue leather upholstery. 11,000 miles... £42,500  
1981 (May) ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT. Garnet with Bage leather upholstery. 22,000 miles... £37,500  
1980 (June) ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW II. Acrylic White with a Dark Blue Everflex roof and Dark Blue leather upholstery. 7,000 miles... £31,800  
1980 (Apr) ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW II. Moorland with Dark Brown leather upholstery and Dark Brown top roll and knee roll. Front seat headrests. 10,000 miles... £29,000  
1980 (Feb) ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER Wraith II WITH-OUT DIVISION. Silver Mist with a Dark Blue Everflex roof and Dark Blue leather upholstery. 7,800 miles... £32,500

Try Jack Barclay first  
01-629 7444  
BENTLEY SQUARE LONDON SW1W 0AG

## Rolls-Royce/Bentley

### Silver Shadow II

April 1980. Claret with garnet roof. Beige interior. 35,000 miles. Full history. Superb condition.  
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1009.0. 1010.0. 1011.0. 1012.0. 1013.0. 1014.0. 1015.0. 1016.0. 1017.0. 1018.0. 1019.0. 1020.0. 1021.0. 1022.0. 1023.0. 1024.0. 1025.0. 1026.0. 1027.0. 1028.0. 1029.0. 1030.0. 1031.0. 1032.0. 1033.0. 1034.0. 1035.0. 1036.0. 1037.0. 1038.0. 1039.0. 1040.0. 1041.0. 1042.0. 1043.0. 1044.0. 1045.0. 1046.0. 1047.0. 1048.0. 1049.0. 1050.0. 1051.0. 1052.0. 1053.0. 1054.0. 1055.0. 1056.0. 1057.0. 1058.0. 1059.0. 1060.0. 1061.0. 1062.0. 1063.0. 1064.0. 1065.0. 1066.0. 1067.0. 1068.0. 1069.0. 1070.0. 1071.0. 1072.0. 1073.0. 1074.0. 1075.0. 1076.0. 1077.0. 1078.0. 1079.0. 1080.0. 1081.0. 1082.0. 1083.0. 1084.0. 1085.0. 1086.0. 1087.0. 1088.0. 1089.0. 1090.0. 1091.0. 1092.0. 1093.0. 1094.0. 1095.0. 1096.0. 1097.0. 1098.0. 1099.0. 1100.0. 1101.0. 1102.0. 1103.0. 1104.0. 1105.0. 1106.0. 1107.0. 1108.0. 1109.0. 1110.0. 1111.0. 1112.0. 1113.0. 1114.0. 1115.0. 1116.0. 1117.0. 1118.0. 1119.0. 1120.0. 1121







## Today's television and radio programmes

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**Radio 2**

News on the hour every hour (except  
 2:00pm and 9:00) **Hour Bulletins:**  
 7:00am, 8:00 1:00pm and 5:00  
 (weekdays) 7:00am, 8:00 1:00pm, 2:30  
 7:00am, 8:00 1:00pm Jimmy Young  
 12:00pm Music While You Work 1:20pm  
 John Cravatin including 2:02 Sports  
 Desk, 2:30 Ed Stewart including 3:02  
 Sports Desk, 4:00 David Hamilton  
 including 4:02, 5:30 Sports Desk, 6:00  
 John Durni including 6:04 Sport and  
 Classifieds, 6:30 News, 7:00 7:28  
 Cricket Desk, 7:30 Take Your Partners  
 in the Radio 2 Bedroom, 7:15 Friday  
 Night is Music Night, 7:30 Ralph  
 McNeil and Friends 9:57 Sports Desk,  
 10:00 Listen To Las, 10:30 Brian  
 Matthews presents Round Midnight at

**Radio 1**

**Radio 1**

**News on the half-hour from 5.30am until 3.30pm and then at 10.00 and 12.00 (m/wed), 5.00pm (Adrian John, 7.00 Mike Smith, 9.00 Simon Bates, 11.00 Steve Wright with the Radio 1 Roadshow in Weston-super-Mare, 12.30 Newsbeat, 12.45 Adri Peabbles, 2.00 Gary Davies, 4.30 Peter Peabody's Select-A-Disc, 5.30 Newsbeat, 5.45 Roadbeat, 7.00 Adri Peabbles, 8.00-10.00 The Friday Rock Show, 1 VHF Radio 1 and 2 5.00am With Radio 2.**

**WORLD SERVICE**

**WORLD SERVICE**

6:00 Newsday, 6:30 The Art of Janet Bland,  
7:00 World News, 7:59 Twenty-Four Hours  
7:30 Here and Now, 7:45 Merchant  
Programme, 8:00 World News, 8:15  
Newsday, 8:30 News, 8:45 News, 9:00  
Ten Commandments, 9:30 World News, 9:45  
Review of the British Press, 9:55 The World  
Today, 10:00 News, 10:15 News, 10:30  
6:45 Album Time, 10:15 Merchant  
Programme, 11:00 World News, 11:09 News  
About Britain, 11:15 in the Mezzanine, 11:25  
News, 11:30 News, 11:50 News, 12:00  
Newsday, 12:15 Jazz for the Asking, 12:30  
Sports Roundup, 1:00 World News, 1:05  
Twenty-Four Hours, 1:30 Einstein's Mystery,  
2:15 Lunch, 2:30 The Art of Janet Bland,  
3:00 Newsday, 3:15 Outlook, 4:00 World

9.75 Music Now  
Looking Glass. 10.00  
World Today. 10.25

hours. 3.30 The Ten Commandments, 5.00  
Network UK. 8.16 Music Now, 8.45 Science  
Through the Looking Glass, 10.00 World News  
10.00 The World of Books, 10.45 Book Club  
10.50 Financial News, 10.40 Reflections, 10.50  
Sports Roundup, 11.00 World News, 11.01  
Commentary, 11.15 From the Weeklies, 11.50  
The View, 12.00 News, 12.15 News, 12.30  
12.30 News about Britain, 12.15 Radar  
Newsweek, 12.30 About Britain, 12.45 Sandra  
and Company, 1.15 Outdoo News Summer  
1.45 News, 2.00 News, 2.15 News, 2.30  
News, 2.00 Review of the British Press, 2.15  
Network UK, 2.30 Kojima's India, 3.00 World  
News, 3.00 News about Britain, 3.15 The World  
of Books, 3.45 News, 4.00 News, 4.15  
Financial News, 4.55 Reflections, 5.00 World  
News, 5.00 Review of the British Press, 5.15  
About Britain, 5.45 The World Today, 5.45  
News on GMT

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**TYNE TEES** As London except 10.25am Film: *Pied Piper (Donovan)*. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 5.15-5.45 Silver Spoons. 6.00 News. 6.20 Sporting Chance. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.50 A-Team. 9.00-10.00 Streets of San Francisco. 10.32 Film: *Look What Happened to Rosemary's Baby (Ray Milland)*. 12.20am Closedown.

Prix. 10.50 Life 4  
5 Welcome Back

**YORKSHIRE** As London before:  
The Grand Prix. 10.50 Live on the Forth  
Floor. 11.55 Welcome Back Kotter.  
11.30 Flying Kiki. 11.55-12.00 Professor  
Kizel. 12.00pm-12.30 News. 5.15-5.45  
Blockbusters. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and  
Sport. 7.30-8.50 A-Team. 9.00-10.00  
Minder. 10.30 Shellie. 11.00 Fern. Tem  
from Within. 12.20am Coodeworm.

**SCOTTISH** As London except:  
10.25am Zoom the  
Dolphin 10.50 Story Hour 11.40-12.00  
Groovie Ghoules 1.20pm-1.30pm  
5.15-5.45 P.S. 7.00 Paul Squire  
Series 1. 7.30-8.00 The Extra 8.45  
7.00 Hear Here 7.30-8.30 A Team 9.00  
10.00 Minder 10.30 Looks Familiar

### Amount Short

11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00 Late Call  
12.05am Paramount Shorts 12.30  
Closedown

**TVS** As London except 10.25am  
Vicky the Viking 10.45 FreeTime  
11.10 Mysteries, myths and legends  
11.35-12.00 Matt and Jenny 1.20pm  
1.30 News 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 5.01  
Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 Friday  
Sportsweek 7.30-8.30 Bring 'em back  
alive 8.00-10.00 A Team 10.30 Film:  
Charley Varrick 12.30am Company  
Closedown

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# Waiting for KAL flight 007: victims of a superpower crisis



Elements of tragedy: Left, sisters of Lee Chul-Kyn, one of the passengers on the Korean Airlines 747, weep together at Seoul airport as a South Korean government spokesman announces it is "almost certain" that the aircraft has been shot down; centre left, a MIG 23 "Flogger" jet fighter, similar to the one which the Americans say shot down the KAL plane; centre right, US Congressman Lawrence P. McDonald, another of the plane's passengers. Mr McDonald was a member of a Congressional delegation on his way to South Korea. He had missed an earlier plane carrying the rest of the delegation; and, right, Mrs Kathryn McDonald, the congressman's wife, who spent the waiting hours "doing a lot of hoping, a lot of praying".

## US may have cracked Soviet code How plane could stray

By William Norris

The missing airliner, a Boeing 747-200B, was equipped with the Union Inertial Navigation System (INS) - a well-tested device which has been in service with civilian airlines for more than a decade.

The system, similar to that used in nuclear submarines, gives a high degree of accuracy and breakdowns are extremely rare.

A spokesman for the Boeing company in Seattle said last night that if the system was working it would be inconceivable for the 747 to be 300 miles off course.

It had, however, been fitted with the INS when built in 1972 for Concorde, the package-tour offshoot of Lufthansa. This would make it one of the earliest examples of the device in service. It was sold to Korean Airlines in 1979.

There are a number of possible explanations for the aircraft straying so far off course. Perhaps the most likely is that the crew fed one wrong figure into the computer when setting the waypoint readings on the INS before departure from Anchorage. A second possibility is that the INS became disconnected from the autopilot. This is an uncommon fault, and difficult to spot because there is no warning in the cockpit. When it happens, the aircraft continues on a great circle course - which in this instance

could have taken it to the spot where it disappeared.

INS systems have also been known to fail when the aircraft is moved on the tarmac prior to the system being locked on.

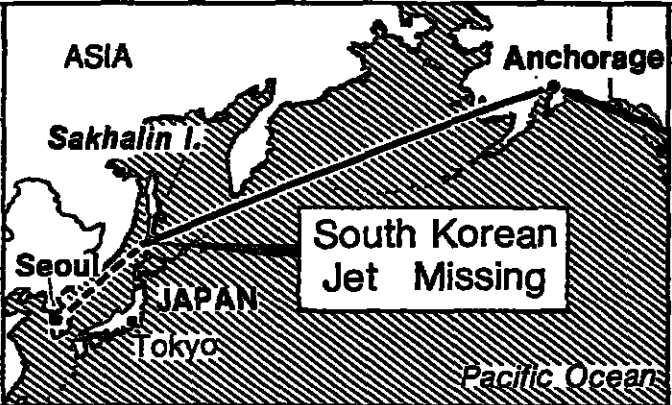
● The monitoring: One of the remarkable features of the shooting down of the Korean airliner is that the Americans apparently were able to monitor the communications between the Russian fighters and their ground controllers (Rodney Cowton, Our Defence Correspondent, writes). That suggests that the West may have broken the Russian security codes.

The United States has listening posts around the world, and it is

believed that the these are able to monitor voice transmissions from their air base at Misawa in the north of Honshu, the main Japanese island. It also has monitoring stations in South Korea.

Military communications would normally be conducted in code.

According to a spokesman in the American Defence Department, the Korean airliner was shot down by a Russian MiG23. This type is known in Nato as the Flanker. It has been produced in various versions since it was first delivered to the Soviet air force in 1970.



## Worst time for crisis to happen

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatically, the incident could hardly have happened at a worse time, with the United States and Soviet Union looking forward to frequent contacts during the autumn after the long hot summer.

On Tuesday the two delegations to the Geneva talks on Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) resume for their most crucial phase, with the scheduled deployment of 572 American nuclear missiles in Europe only three months away.

On the following day Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, are also expected to discuss INF and other issues when 35 nations gather in Madrid for the final session of the European Security Review Conference.

On September 20 the UN General Assembly opens, providing another opportunity for foreign ministers to meet "in the margins" and seek solutions to issues dividing them.

On October 4 negotiations on strategic nuclear missiles open in Geneva, after recent optimistic remarks by General Edward Rowney, head of the American delegation.

The great fear must be that yesterday's incident will put back the clock.

## 'We react with revulsion'

Continued from page 1

At We have no evidence of that. There was no, apparently no, ability to communicate between the two aircraft. But as the statement says, the Soviet plane that shot the commercial airliner down moved itself into position with a visual contact with the aircraft, so that with the eye what it was you're looking at.

Q: Do you know whether the Soviets tried to force the airplane down without using missiles?

A: We have no explanation about, and, as I said, as far as we can see there was no communication between the two aircraft except that they tracked this aircraft for 2 1/2 hours. At least

eight fighters at one time of another were around in the vicinity, and the aircraft that shot the plane down was close enough for a visual inspection of the aircraft.

Q: Has there been any announcement of any particular kind of Soviet military exercises or manoeuvres or super-sophisticated radar that might have been in the area, and that they had warned everybody to stay away from?

Q: Is there any explanation?

A: We have no explanation to offer. We can see no explanation whatever for shooting down an unarmed commercial airliner. It doesn't matter whether it's in your air space or not.

Q: Was the decision to shoot this plane down made at a fairly top level since they were tracking it for a long time?

A: We gave you the facts as we have them at this point, and I can't go beyond the facts that I have here. I'm not going to speculate about it. I'm trying to put forward the facts as we know them, and to tell you the United States Government attitude and my own attitude toward the shooting down of a commercial airliner.

Q: Mr Secretary, do you have any sense as to whether there would be any political motivation for this beyond what you know of?

A: I can't imagine any political motivation for the shooting down of an unarmed airliner.

## Washington considers UN plea

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United States was considering calling a meeting of the United Nations Security Council after American charges that Soviet jets shot down the South Korean airliner.

American officials at the US Mission to the United Nations said they were awaiting further instructions from the State Department. They said caution was the key until the Soviet Union had explained the incident.

Diplomats at the United Nations were taking a wait-and-see attitude before passing judgment and predicting the ramifications on American-Soviet relations.

Most said it was too early to tell how the Soviet Union would emerge in terms of its image where it has attempted to persuade, the international community that it is the promulgator of peace.

Some diplomatic observers thought Mr Shultz's statement, although unreservedly strong, still left the Soviet Union room to extricate itself from a tight corner. They felt the Soviets could confess error and emerge relatively unscathed while silence would produce accusations and an erosion of trust which would be difficult to restore.

Mr Charles Lichenstein, the

American representative to the United Nations, said the president of the Security Council yesterday to inform him of the incident.

In Montreal, where the International Civil Aviation Organization is based, a spokesman said South Korea had asked the agency to find out from the Soviet Civil Aviation Ministry Union what had happened to the airliner, (Reuters reports).

He said that under international-agreed safety procedures endorsed by the Soviet Union, jets which intercept stray aircraft should tip their wings, make flashing signals and establish contact.

## Russia's listening island

New York (AP) - Sakhalin, the Soviet island in the area where the jumbo jet disappeared, is a mountainside, heavily forested island 20 miles off the east coast of the Soviet Union.

The 29,500-square-mile island is part of the Soviet Far Eastern air defence network, with air bases, radar installations and tracking stations.

With the Kuril Islands, it forms the Sakhalin Oblast (Province) of the Soviet Far East.

Sakhalin lies between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan, separated from the Japanese mainland on the west by the Tatar Strait and from Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan by the Soya Strait.

Two parallel mountain ranges run the length of the island, which has a population of about 600,000 people, mostly ethnic Russians.

There are oil fields in the northeast and pipeline runs to the Soviet mainland.

Under Russian domination after 1875, Sakhalin was the site of penal camps for more than 30,000 criminals and Russian revolutionaries.

Russian writer Anton Chekhov, who visited it, described it as the "place of unbearable suffering".

After the Second World War the Soviet Union took over the entire island.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

**Royal engagements**  
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Richard III Society, visits Gloucester to attend the 500th anniversary celebrations to mark the granting of the Charter of Incorporation to the City of Gloucester by King Richard III: arrives St Michael's Tower, Eastgate Street, 3.25; arrives City Museum, Brunswick Road, 3.45; arrives Oxford, 4.15; arrives Guildhall Gloucester, 4.45.

**New exhibitions**  
John Player art of Cricket, City

**Art Gallery, exhibition Square, York**  
Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until Sept 25).  
Paintings by Mervyn Charlton, Earlham Street, Covent Garden, WC2E: Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (until Sept 10), Sat 11 to 5 closed Sun, from today until Oct 8.  
Flower drawings by Toni Hayden, Talent Store Gallery, 11 Eccleston Street, SW1: Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, (until Sept 26).  
Corns Lucas - a retrospective, Photographers' Gallery, 58 Great Newport Street, WC, Tues to Sat 11 to 7 (until October 8).

**New London exhibitions**  
Royal Society of Marine Artists annual exhibition, The Mall Galleries, The Mall, SW1: Mon to

**Rugs and Throws**  
contemporary textiles, British Crafts Centre, 43 Earlham Street, Covent Garden, WC2E: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Thurs 11 to 5 closed Sun, from today until Oct 8.  
Flower drawings by Toni Hayden, Talent Store Gallery, 11 Eccleston Street, SW1: Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, (until Sept 26).  
Corns Lucas - a retrospective, Photographers' Gallery, 58 Great Newport Street, WC, Tues to Sat 11 to 7 (until October 8).

**Last chance to see**  
Virgil in Britain - books and graphics, Somerset County Museum, Taunton Castle, Taunton: 10 to 5 (ends today).  
Paintings by Douglas Hills and Cuthbert Bell: Halesworth Gallery, Steeple End, Halesworth: 11 to 5 (ends today).

**Closing in London**  
The New-Found-Land 1583-1949, a postal history, Canada House Cultural Centre, Trafalgar Square, SW1: 10 to 3.30 (ends today).  
Painting and prints from art college degree shows, Morley Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1: 10 to 6 (ends today).

**Music**  
Concert by the Ulster Orchestra with Anthony Pay (clarinet), Ulster Hall, Bedford Street, Belfast, 7.45.  
Seventh West of England Organ Festival: Organ playing competition, Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.  
Recital by pipers and fiddlers, The Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 12.  
Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Ulster Hall, Edinburgh, 8.

**General**  
Durham Beer Festival, Dunelm House, New Elvet, Durham, 11 to 3 and 6 to 10.15.  
A Midsummer Night's Dream, by Theatre Set-up, Scooney Castle Gardens, near Lamberhurst, Kent, 2, gates open 1.30.

**Top films**  
Top box-office films in London:  
(1) War Games 2 (2) Outlaw Josey Wales 3 (3) Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence 4 (4) Blue Thunder 5 (5) Return of the Jedi 6 (6) Monty Python's The Meaning of Life 7 (7) Superman III 8 (8) Flashdance 9 (9) Flashdance 10 (10) Flashdance  
The top five films in the provinces:  
(1) Outlaw Josey Wales 2 (2) Outlaw Josey Wales 3 (3) Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence 4 (4) Blue Thunder 5 (5) Return of the Jedi 6 (6) Monty Python's The Meaning of Life 7 (7) Superman III 8 (8) Flashdance 9 (9) Flashdance 10 (10) Flashdance  
Compiled by Screen International

**Anniversaries**  
John Howard, philanthropist and politician was born in London, 1726. Thomas Edison, civil engineer, died in London, 1834. Octavio Caceres died in Madrid, 1902. The Great Fire of London began, lasting until September 6, 1666.

### Roads

**London and South-east: A102:**  
The northbound bore of the Blackwall Tunnel will close at 8 pm today; two-way traffic will use southbound bore. M20: All traffic using the coastbound carriageway at Swanley, Kent, A30 Reconstruction works on the Staines by-pass between Stanwell Moor Road and the Watlington roundabout.  
**Wales and West MS:** Traffic sharing roadwork closures at junction 2 (M40 and M42) and junction 3 (M40 and M42) and junction 4 (M40 and M42) and junction 5 (M40 and M42) and junction 6 (M40 and M42) and junction 7 (M40 and M42) and junction 8 (M40 and M42) and junction 9 (M40 and M42) and junction 10 (M40 and M42) and junction 11 (M40 and M42) and junction 12 (M40 and M42) and junction 13 (M40 and M42) and junction 14 (M40 and M42) and junction 15 (M40 and M42) and junction 16 (M40 and M42) and junction 17 (M40 and M42) and junction 18 (M40 and M42) and junction 19 (M40 and M42) and junction 20 (M40 and M42) and junction 21 (M40 and M42) and junction 22 (M40 and M42) and junction 23 (M40 and M42) and junction 24 (M40 and M42) and junction 25 (M40 and M42) and junction 26 (M40 and M42) and junction 27 (M40 and M42) and junction 28 (M40 and M42) and junction 29 (M40 and M42) and junction 30 (M40 and M42) and junction 31 (M40 and M42) and junction 32 (M40 and M42) and junction 33 (M40 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